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# MACLEAN'S

ROGERS

# It's the Charter, stupid

Why is our constitutional debate so unhinged from reality?



ANDREW POTTER

The Canadian Constitution is in bad luck. Well, the way we talk about it is in the unworldly by the philosopher Harry Frankfurt in his bestselling pamphlet, *On Bullshit*. The Constitution, he argues, is in the unworldly by the philosopher Harry Frankfurt in his bestselling pamphlet, *On Bullshit*. The Constitution, he argues, is in the unworldly by the philosopher Harry Frankfurt in his bestselling pamphlet, *On Bullshit*.

Frankfurt is the speaker after Paul Martin's mid-electoral debate, apparently done up on the spot, in front of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms to prevent Ottawa from oversteering the new discussion. He quickly dashed up over whether the government did not need the unilateral power to do so, but the real problem is the extent to which the Canadian Constitution now looks more like a political party's brain trust than a document of principle.

If the American can seem a little uneasy in their constitutional reverence, we appear to have decided to treat our Constitution as one would a personal marital infidelity: we either possibly getting, or we turn it into a big, hairy screaming match. This applies to the way we talk about the Charter, the way we talk about the Charter, the way we talk about the Charter.

Academics will say that constitutions come in two types: a governance constitution and a governance constitution. A governance constitution is seen and printed (political) community of a certain type, with its historical process and traditions. Canada's constitution is a governance constitution. Canada's constitution is a governance constitution. Canada's constitution is a governance constitution.

Our constitution is in a bad luck. Well, the way we talk about it is in the unworldly by the philosopher Harry Frankfurt in his bestselling pamphlet, *On Bullshit*. The Constitution, he argues, is in the unworldly by the philosopher Harry Frankfurt in his bestselling pamphlet, *On Bullshit*.

Then, in 1982, the Charter of Rights and Freedoms introduced a locally transformative voice. Most of the big ideological debates over the past quarter century—from judicial activism and the notwithstanding clause to government and municipal laws—are the vibrant effects of this shift. Canada is now a country divided not only in the political and constitutional level, but also the constitutional level. We're not even agreed in the lead of constitution that we would, hypothetically, accept any agreement. It's the Charter, stupid! No, it's the stupid Charter.

It's no wonder, then, that we're not even agreed in the lead of constitution that we would, hypothetically, accept any agreement. It's the Charter, stupid! No, it's the stupid Charter.

We treat our Constitution as one would a marital infidelity: we either pointedly ignore it or turn it into a screaming match

The greatest weakness of constitutional politics, both in Canada and in the rest of the world, is that the Charter is a reflection of the Charter. The Charter is a reflection of the Charter. The Charter is a reflection of the Charter.

The Charter is a reflection of the Charter. The Charter is a reflection of the Charter. The Charter is a reflection of the Charter.



7 DAYS  
A LOOK AT THE WEEK OF

## GOOD NEWS

**A warm, fuzzy border**  
India and Pakistan are talking their way in an evolving peace. A summit between the two nuclear powers began with an official statement of gratitude for India's role in Pakistan's economic recovery.

**Safe sex workers**  
The British government is planning to decriminalize sex work. The new law would allow sex workers to provide protection and safety for their clients. The new law would allow sex workers to provide protection and safety for their clients.

## Schooling the U.S.

The Pentagon's New Orleans Commission has asked to strategy for rebuilding the city's damaged school system. It calls for a new school system that would be a new school system that would be a new school system.

## Worth the wait

NASA's New Horizons space probe was scheduled to leave Earth from Cape Canaveral Tuesday, but high winds kept it on the launch pad. The probe is scheduled to leave Earth from Cape Canaveral Tuesday.

# INDIA AND PAKISTAN BUILD BRIDGES, EDMONTON SAVES NEW ORLEANS SCHOOLS, AND KELLY CLARKSON SNUBS IDOL FANS

## BAD NEWS

## American Diva

Kelly Clarkson kept mad over her career in America. She was the first winner of the reality show. She was the first winner of the reality show.



SIXTER AND BEYOND: The New Horizons spacecraft, bound for Pluto

road, towards the end of the 19th century. The road was built by the 19th century. The road was built by the 19th century.

publicly, including a meeting with the judge. She was the first winner of the reality show.

## Everybody panic!

The Tokyo Stock Exchange has prompted the world with an important lesson in how to deal with a market panic. The Tokyo Stock Exchange has prompted the world with an important lesson in how to deal with a market panic.

## Earth to Ray

When New Orleans mayor, Ray Nagin, was on the radio last September to announce the U.S. government's intention to use force to fight him, he was on the radio last September to announce the U.S. government's intention to use force to fight him.

## Buzz off (II)

First, C&P presents the first ever. The first ever. The first ever. The first ever.



## A WEEK IN THE LIFE OF DAVID OLIVER

The disavowed Liberal candidate in B.C.'s Abbotsford riding spent Saturday, Jan. 14, answering media inquiries about his NDP opponent's allegations that David Oliver tried to bribe him. On Sunday, Oliver said, "I had around the house in my 19s, watched TV and napped a lot." At a meeting with his staff on Monday, he declared he would continue to campaign as an independent. He attended an all-candidates meet and greet at a local austerity, although "not a lot of people were there."

## DISCOVERY

### Revenge: a guy thing

Males are more likely to find vengeance satisfying than females. Scientists have examined the brain activity of males and females watching pain being apparently inflicted on someone they liked.



ELEPHANTS: Vicious to keep watch

and delisted, and found that males appeared to enjoy seeing pain inflicted on him. Women showed empathy for both friend and foe.

### Tuned to you

Imagine anything this piques your curiosity, mood and history of music choices, then program music for you accordingly. The University of Maryland has been researching the likelihood of such a device, which would monitor several variables, then produce the genre of music that would probably be desired.

### Smelling ready

The odour to the female sex is a puzzle when women are at their most fertile, making them more attractive to men, says a report in *Evolutionary Journal*. Based on a study of 12 women who wore scented pads 24 hours a day, the study found that when women are not ready for pregnancy the odour gives less attraction.

### Future of metal

Vale University researchers have gathered experimental data on the mining, use, recycling and disposal of copper, drawing a picture of the future of the metal for

the consumption of humanity. Everyone in the world were to consume the same amount as North Americans do, 170 kg per person, it would be impossible to supply the Earth's estimated 80 billion people by 1104. The same holds true for platinum and zinc.

### Service needed

A shortage of pollinators is threatening the survival of many plant species, an international study involving the University of Calgary has found. Increasing human activity has reduced the habitat for pollinators such as bees and birds, putting approximately 50 per cent of the world's flowering plants under reproductive stress.

## WILD KINGDOM

### Giant cocktails

How did it turn in Mongolia? Cellar workers for the existing Moscow State Circus are giving the elephants a dose of vodka to keep them warm during a week-long engagement. Temperatures have dropped to 28 C. And how much vodka makes up to a elephant's shot? At least two litres a day.

### From meal to pal

Zookeepers in Tokyo gave a hamster to a snake, a rat snake, expecting the rodent to eat the serpent in rat's. Another kind of love emerged: the snake didn't eat but kind of adopted it. The two now share a cage and sometimes the hamster even sleeps on top of the snake. Zookeepers nicknamed the rodent Gohari, which means "meal." "Another reason to enjoy Gohari's company," said Kazuya Yamamoto, a zoo employee.

### City bees healthier

It seems counterintuitive, but bees raised in cities are actually healthier and up to five times more productive than bees raised in the countryside. Three reasons may be higher temperatures in cities,

less exposure to agricultural pesticides, and more plentiful and varied flowering plants. And, as a French scientist, "In towns, the bees go out more."

### Stamped hamster

David Jordan and James Cole decided to seek vengeance on a man who'd threatened Jordan, so they adopted a small hamster through the mail. In seven, the two Cambridge University students admitted abandoning the animal on someone's likely to cause unnecessary suffering. The pair were found and burned from owning animals for 50 years. The hamster was intercepted by an alert postman before it was subject to a standard warning equipment.

## MORTALITY

### Bad apples?

Apples kept in the freezer won't keep it, says Food Standards Australia New Zealand, a national regulator. The organization is prohibiting sales that would prevent certain fruits from being marketed as "healthy," including apples, pears and most nuts from several growers, because, the authority says, they are high in sugar.

### Malaria watch

A South African mosquito has created a new way to spread malaria.

ARMAN AND GORAL. Snake and its back have become good buddies



on the west several times a day with a tiny needle and red blood for the presence of parasites that carry malaria. The device more than 10 parasites in a sample, it rings an alarm, providing early warning of the presence of a disease that kills one million annually and makes millions more sick.

### A pill for trauma

Scientists believe that during horrific events, the human brain produces stress hormones that cause memories of the terrible event to become so concerned that they become obstacles. That causes post-traumatic stress syndrome, and researchers are proposing a drug that will suppress the hormones when they strike. A beta blocker drug called propranolol, which has been used to treat stage fright, may show promise.

### Steady treatment

A final and to maintain healthy AIDS patients take their breaks from their treatment was abruptly stopped last week, when the National Institutes of Allergy and Infectious Diseases found that people are much more likely to grow seriously ill and die.

### Sofa deaths

There is a rising incidence of sudden infant death syndrome in circumstances where a parent sleeps with their child on a sofa.



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THE WEEK AHEAD... RESTLESS UNIONS, RATES AND VOTERS

Air Canada's unions intend to write the airline's parent, ACE Aviation Holdings, demanding revised labour contracts in light of improved financial performance. The Bank of Canada revises interest rates and is widely expected to raise them again, with an other increase expected in March. In the Middle East, Palestinians go in the polls to elect a legislature. A recent public opinion poll puts Vista support at 65 per cent of voters, with Hanao drawing 14 per cent.



disabled, was carried by their mother. The shopping center has no service for handicapped.

## KIDS TODAY

Grilled cheese, please

Canadian kids want their grilled cheese sandwiches. A recent poll of parents showed that 38 per cent of kids were grilled cheese, compared with peas or butter and jelly at 21 per cent. Tuna and bologna trailed.

### Route charts

Beer Pong is growing in popularity at conventions, culminating in the "World Series of Beer Pong," held in Nevada recently with a \$100,000 prize. Beer pong involves placing half-filled cups of beer at either end of a ping pong table. One player shoots a ball

### Flying shrimp

It wasn't the ducting knife work in the Northern restaurant that allegedly killed Jerry Collins, it was the flying shrapnel. His estate claims in a US\$60 million lawsuit that Collins died after ducking an airborne shrapnel, which caused him to injure his neck. The injury required surgery and a facial reconstruction.

### Tricky Words

A traffic sign in Cardiff, Wales, has been removed after an alarmed bilingual roadside poster pointed out that it said in English, "Pedestrians look right," and in Welsh, "Pedestrians look left."

*New kidneys, new lives*

Chortan Jambayack Sryapan Lamsa has taken a new liking to doing housework, and he claims it's because he received a kidney transplant from a female donor. Strenuous his old life of drinking in pubs with gals, he now has a "strange passion for female jobs like ironing, sewing, washing dishes [and] sorting clothes in wardrobes." His wife, Radmalin, says, "I'm very happy."

### TV plea for help

A multielement television receiver sent out an unmodulated 5436 signal in Portsmouth, England. The signal was received via satellite by the Royal Air Force's Aeronautical Research Co-ordinating Centre and a coast guard helicopter was dispatched. A two-hour search over Portsmouth by boat ended after the telecommunications authority traced the signal to a faulty digital TV box.

### The twin inside

Russian doctors diagnosed a tumour in the back of 51-year-old tractor operator Igor Naryshkov, so they operated to remove

What they found was the unborn fetus of Narayana's twin brother, which had resided in him for 35 years. Narayana said that he complained of back pain when he was 15, but doctors dismissed it as the result of a harmless nerve runner.

## IN PASSING

**Shirley Womack, 55, actress:** The sometimes-blondie, sometimes-profound actress was known for playing a downed d-wreckling (clad in A-Plains in the Sun), a bronze love interest in *Sasatchewee*, and a memorable waitress in *The Godfather Part II*.

**Faiz Sheikh** *father of Ahmed al-Sabah, 73, ruler of Kuwait. He held power for 28 years, including during the first Gulf War, when Iraq's Saddam Hussein evicted the small nation to the head of the Persian Gulf. Sheikh al-Sabah*



UNITED STATES: Surveyed Nations

lived an assimilation attempt in 1964 and created a reserve fund to avoid income from Kuwait's vast oil wealth for the benefit of future generations of Kuwaitis.

**Utah Pickens**, 64, coal singer best known for *Miner's Blues*, *Mustang Sally* and *Land of a 1,000 Dances*. He helped define coal music through his ripped-down, raucy stringing style.







# The Mounties give up

The RCMP is walking away from serious investigations, and failing to snag fraudsters, drug traffickers and white collar criminals

BY CHRISTIE GILLIES. PHOTOGRAPHS BY RYLE LEITCHNER

On the day of his graduation from the RCMP, Ted Neil Moxing and "High Inevitable" harnessed to a barrel, Const. Scott Johnson, 27, a charming, carefree, carefree, carefree. From here, he'll be in the Mounties' training academy in Regina, he'll go to Dalhousie, Alta., a quiet police town where he can learn the ropes of day-to-day policing. Then, with a few years under his belt, the name of Campbellford, Ont., plans to return to his home province, where the RCMP will run many of the operations against the country's most serious criminals: organized crime, drug traffickers, white collar criminals. In Johnson's case, complex, high-level investigations are the stuff that he'll be the RCMP apart from other police services—"that something," as he puts it, "that done in the Mounties."

Working in day at Depot, in the morning facility here is known, in a time for such blue

day operations—a moment for graduation from the RCMP, he'll be in the Mounties' training academy in Regina, he'll go to Dalhousie, Alta., a quiet police town where he can learn the ropes of day-to-day policing. Then, with a few years under his belt, the name of Campbellford, Ont., plans to return to his home province, where the RCMP will run many of the operations against the country's most serious criminals: organized crime, drug traffickers, white collar criminals. In Johnson's case, complex, high-level investigations are the stuff that he'll be the RCMP apart from other police services—"that something," as he puts it, "that done in the Mounties."

Working in day at Depot, in the morning facility here is known, in a time for such blue

success. The Mounties' rate for other federal agencies—federal agencies are said to track market scores on struggling schemes—has been even worse, ranging from high to low in the mid-1990s to 26 per cent in 2004.

And when Johnson's return to some of his senior colleagues, the picture may seem even bleaker. In interviews with *Maclean's* over the past few weeks, officers from across the country have decried a force losing effectiveness even as it seems to lose money and legal powers from the federal government. Detectors in federal units say they're being forced to go on intelligence of criminal wrong doing because they simply can't muster the manpower or to investigate. The problem, they say, is that the force is preoccupied with falling in to contract investigations where it supplies lower-level policing. Yet several constables say they're overburdened, too increasingly serious cases, they say, officers usually try to persuade crime victims not to press charges so they can close files more quickly. "If the public knew, anyone's office

based in Ottawa, I think there would be a scandal."

Most like the dilemma at the heart of the RCMP's ongoing crisis: Can it afford the need for a really, well-staffed federal police agency while simultaneously pursuing the demands of the P.I. man, or, for example, B.C. Only trying to do two things at once, as they say, is not the way.

The new series of the war in high-stakes crime reduction in place at the centre of the national conversation. Police ministers in both Ottawa and Quebec's Park have been drawn into market on enforcement investigations over the past year, while the RCMP's inquiry followed a network of political spinners devaluing the public with apparent impunity. Last fall, Bank of Canada governor David Dodge warned in a speech to RCMP brass that Canada risks becoming "a safe haven for a significant criminal workload in white collar crime." These are matters the Mounties are specifically intended to handle Dodge for once in trying them to get busy.

Paul Peltano, who has extensive influence on the RCMP, takes the argument as a challenge. The Mounties, he says, have been falling behind conventional and white collar crime in the mid-1990s, and the single, galvanizing event since then—their own arrests of Sept. 11, 2001—has failed to prompt any wholesale reassessment, he says. "Nothing has changed. The RCMP's whole job has been to maintain the status quo." In the meantime, he notes, the Mounties have been deluged by a well-publicized series of modern and investigative failures—most notably, the 1999 investigation of a diamond heist. The acquittal of suspects in the 1999 heist, the disappointing allegations surrounding Maher Arar's deportation to Syria, the 1999 investigation of Brian Mulroney and the Airbus contract—all have called into question the Mounties' ability to handle big-time international cases.

On the pencil side, the final showing in November of a computer in Houston, B.C., JAGGEMILL: "If we don't make this problem attractive, they'll go somewhere else."



and the drawing last summer of an officer wearing his body scanner in Lake Ontario gave rise to accusations of poor judgment or ill-preparedness. So too did the details of four officers near Minneapolis, Minn., at the hands of a well-known troublemaker. So even as all the major political parties line up to promise money and a boost in the 17,000-member force, the mounting investigations are the Mounties up to the job?

The RCMP takes these perceptions seriously enough to fly a senior officer from Ottawa to Regina to show a reporter what's doing to explain its crisis and meet the mounting demand for its services. Courteous and soft-spoken, Insp. Glen Segura is the kind of Stetson figure the RCMP has portrayed publicly since its inception 151 years ago, and that helps suggest many Canada will revert. As Dodge's assessment to follow, Segura's message is to reassure. When asked to put an attention on seeing his officers' progress, he shrugs them off for a day.

These qualities, along with his basic good sense, make Segura the perfect officer to head the RCMP's restructuring "national initiative," the down the force has ever come to a nationally coordinated recruiting campaign. In each of the next two years, the organization hopes to hire some 1,000 plus new officers, fully 60 per cent more than the 2005 quota. Once the level of the response reflects the crisis every government agency faces due to retiring baby boomers. According to the senior general, members across the RCMP could make 3,000 by 2010. "I think we'll be looking to look into the future, at the demographic trends, and not present numbers," says Segura. It's also a way to show they're addressing policing problems directly coming to public attention. Wherever the RCMP kills in the future, the need for experienced officers will be a constant.

It won't be easy. Last summer, reports surfaced indicating the RCMP had received 20 per

cent fewer applications from Ontario and Quebec than the previous year. (Recruits say that number has rebounded), and the long-term decline is worrying. "We have to recruit people to replace the RCMP entry quota each year the mid-'90s, but number has fallen to about 100,000 for about 1,000 positions. That's still plenty to choose from, but it's not as good as it used to be. Confidence. There's a problem of keeping the good ones." For many of these who stood in the



CONST. DAVID SEGURA sits before his morning in white. Const. Cindy Kershaw sits before.

past. It was the only choice they had, and they intended to stay," said RCMP Commissioner Giuliano Zaccardi in an interview. "In today's society, young men and women have different opinions, different attitudes. So if we don't make this position attractive to them, they'll go somewhere else."

So while Segura's message that force is in crisis, he and his co-workers are nevertheless ramping up their sales pitch, vowing the agency, in year recruitment drive and actively growing pay that has been slowly down a series of pay cuts. The RCMP, in some cases, they've adopted a criminal down market message. In Manitoba, for example, the organization's coordinated advertising spots on radio stations and in airport newspapers emphasizing the applications don't need to be very good at the ability to speak French to join up. Segura's division suggests the force is doubling down to reach its targets. "I have met all of those job deficiencies," he says, smiling. "I think I've done okay."

It's been a long time since the Mounties had the hard to believe, and the threat of a future is only about deterring more in crisis, the next, obvious question is: where are they going to put these people? That's where the difficulties only begin. The 20-year agreement under which the force currently supplies policing services to cities, towns and rural communities across the country expires in 2002, with a general renewal to be negotiated. The Mounties are almost certain to face pressure to keep up their presence in these places where they provide community policing. Numbers tabulated last November by the Conservatives in the House of Commons show

a net average of 158 officers in provincial and municipal contracts. And in the force's recent "dissent satisfaction" surveys, earned poorly on the issue of officers' deployment of its resources. "If the RCMP can't supply the bodies for their contracts, they're going to lose them," says Benoit Standafield, head of the post studies program at the University of Guelph. "The main police will protest and create their own police agencies."

Meanwhile, the force's officers are already putting public safety at risk. One notable position is B.C.'s Lower Mainland, says Benoit Standafield, head of the post studies program at the University of Guelph. "The main police will protest and create their own police agencies."

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GARIBOLDI may never leave small towns. Federal enforcement runs 25 percent underfunded.

"Of those, you might get three or four that really go to the investigation," says the officer, and with such a heavy workload, officers spend their days off hunched under paperwork. Worse, he says, they begin to lose interest. "In most of everything you do, they're looking for ways out. They want to tell that tale as soon as possible."

There's more of packing off investigations are scarce. Sometimes officers say investigating if it doesn't seem to provide a clear path of investigation of a person or the community. Or they might try to discourage a victim—implicitly or not, as implicitly—from pursuing charges. "Let's say two people who are drunk have been caught each other fairly badly—broken noses, bleeding," he explains. "You find someone who's, you, that you stand in a fight, a beer bottle and somebody over or over that you're head."

"Well, how many times have I seen a police officer go up to the victim and say, 'You know what? I'm sorry, your head hurts and you have a black eye, but this guy is an acquaintance of yours, right? There's no going to court

either." But several other members working in urban divisions have corroborated his account to Macdonald. And while some consider "local policing," British Columbia see the potential result of that practice in September 2004, when a police officer, Mike Miller, admitted during a coroner's inquest that he failed to properly investigate a special violent crime in the early 1990s. Rather than investigating the account, Brian Hayes, as per the force's investigation procedures in domestic violence cases, Miller said he hurriedly closed the file. One week later, Hayes walked into his arranged wife's bedroom room and that brother-in-law 48-year-old mother to death.

Such chilling outcomes are rare in the world of federal policing, says RCMP investigators need to be largely off-line in federal enforcement are no less rural, no less agent than street-level police officers in the department of their units. One in Staff Sgt. Garet Doherty, a 30-year veteran based

in Montreal who has run off his superior in the past for speaking his mind about problems in the force. Apparently unfazed, he points to Montreal's drug enforcement action when asked about the state of federal policing, saying the unit has fallen from its former prominence of about 75 officers to 20 or 25 in the form of officers of bodies to 40 in some Western Canada. Ironically, he says, members of the Montreal service have watched large-scale violence go by, even when they had solid intelligence of wrongdoing. "They've even been forced to tell international partners wanting them to do investigations. Look, we can't. We barely have the manpower to do the bare bones of our duties because all of our personnel have been taken away."

Delisle's colleagues in other parts of the country often share stories. "Contract the agency," grumbles one veteran officer in a rural police unit in southern Ontario. "We have to have the people in uniform to cover our contracts and the attitude is that we're going to be the one who can't do it."

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THE GRAB: shows marching past one rioter, another part of a force that's having officers even to get more money and legal powers

has been seven-fold since the mid-1990s. The force also continues to resist trading too much into its contract units. Its drug enforcement data, for example, include cases investigated by a variety of personnel across the country, not just dedicated federal enforcement units, says Staff Sgt. Paul Martin, a spokesman in Ottawa. Factors that could reduce demand did include changes to reporting methods, legislative amendments and court decisions. "A detailed analysis would have to be conducted to determine what factors contributed to the change," he says.

**T**he debate over resources, and the uncertainty over performance, recently highlighted a stark reality in the heart of the Mounties' mission. They are seriously lacking. Peter to pay Paul, and the result, a crisis, is inadequacy in both sides of their operation. While the auditor general blames the numerous thousands of officers in federal policing, the Fraser Valley College study notes that RCMP police officers have

OFF-THE-ROAD: Cleaner cars for drug cases, from \$10 per car to \$1 per car.



lower officers per capita than neighboring cities. "There's no one detection that's missing with the proper resources," concludes Rob Crosson, vice-president of the B.C. Mounted Police Association and a constant battle on Kootenay. "Our risk management model appears to be based on God's gift."

Which raises the question of the RCMP's options. Should the Mounties be focusing their resources on areas more worthy of a national police force? Could they abandon patrol functions altogether, becoming a federal law enforcement agency like the FBI? Or might the RCMP evolve into something, providing both federal law enforcement and general policing to small communities, while leaving the taxing job of providing expanded urban services to other forces?

For now, the likelihood of the RCMP doing any of its current work seems remote, not least because it would mean conceding a significant part of its mission. "If they're sending their bodies, of which they have too few to do the job, to contract policing, that tells you something about their values and priorities," says Standafield of the University of Guelph. "It shows where they really think their bread and butter is." Indeed, the RCMP's leadership glances at the suggestion that a patrol detachment be a border. "Our Aeneas collection may be far from the heart of policing, we do," says William from RCMP headquarters in Ottawa. "Contract policing is what we are one of us in this organization and our experience is to get police officers, good investigators. Whatnot, we're the hammer for expertise."

Meanwhile, provinces using RCMP services

have little incentive to create their own police forces, says Chris Murphy, a law enforcement expert at Dalhousie University who has studied the RCMP. Under current arrangements, Ottawa pays up to 30 per cent of the policing bill for provinces that use the Mounties, and 10 per cent for municipal forces. Even if the fed managed to recover their share after 2012, any province, region or city that starts up its own force would likely save little money. "The RCMP," he says, "are one of the most efficient departments around there."

He may not know it yet, but this is all bad news for ambitious young criminals like Keith Johnson, back in Regina, his sights are set high on the graduation of his display, and now also at eye to eye with the forces of the new Mounties begin filing from the hall. It will be another 20 hours before the auditor general releases the black report, and for now Johnson's dreams are still. Commissioner Zaretsky has made a surprise appearance in the ceremony, welcoming the grads to the "great legacy" of the Mounties. "My grand parent and great-grandfather were proud police officers," says Johnson, placing at a clutch of relatives who he's come to see have sworn in. "The RCMP is a symbol of Canada."

Perhaps. But the Mounties are also supposed to uphold something a lot more profound than the spirit of a nation. They're supposed to represent authority in law enforcement, an identity impossible to maintain if their officers increasingly wear civilian clothes and behave. Preserving the status quo, therefore, may be no favour to officers like Johnson. If the values of dissent are right, he has a belief of their trust and—by extension—ability by way to treat a national trust. ■



# Born again in Syria

Evangelical Christian churches have been drawing Arabs across this Middle East nation

**BY MICHAEL PETROSS** • A swirling flow of pale, low-cuts, megalith and overloaded minivans belches black smoke into the dusty air. The vehicles dodge-dodder cars and brave pedestrians in they rise around the traffic, circle outside the Bab al-Jann gate into the walled old city of Damascus. It was at this location in the first century that Paul of Tarsus was smuggled out of the city, lowered from its walls in a basket after he had enraged local officials by preaching Christianity in their synagogues. By that time, Paul had already experienced his blinding revelation on the road to Damascus, becoming Paul the Apostle, and subsequently spreading Christianity throughout the Roman Empire.

Bab Katan, therefore, might be an appropriate place for Christian evangelism. Indeed, a short walk away, past the cramped streets and alleys of Damascus's Jewish quarter (now virtually empty of Jews), the Sunday night service at the al-Masrahih evangelical church is in full swing in the old city's traditional Christian neighborhood. Pastor Ilham, a 25-year-old man with a thick, well-trimmed black beard, a smiling beneath a no-doubt, gold-colored cross on the wall behind him. His eyes closed, he holds one arm aloft in front of him, palm upward, as he preaches in a rhythmic voice, half singing, half speaking, accompanied by a small, ornate electronic organ that features a small machine, "Jesus is Lord," Ilham says, rhythmically beating his eyes and dropping his voice to a low whisper. "Let him always be in our minds. Let there be no obstacles between Jesus and us. Amen. Amen. Amen."

It's a scene that has long been common in countless Damascus churches across America, and in other evangelical churches in Europe and North America. But while Protestant churches have existed in Syria since the mid-19th century, it's only in the past couple of decades that evangelical churches have sprung up here. Pastor Karim's congregation is overwhelmingly Arab, at least one man, the traditional red checked keffiyeh headscarf. The members sing in hebreu, and they too hold their hands up in the sky. "The evangelical church is very powerful here," Karim says after the service, noting that the Nazarenes have branches in every major Syrian city. "We speak about Jesus

Christ as the savior. We don't ask anyone about their religious background: Orthodox, Muslim, whatever. We believe Jesus is the savior of all people. We are a kind of personal church. The church isn't just for the Nazarenes. It's for everyone."

Members of the congregation speak openly about their desire to convert Muslims to Christianity, and to bring other Christians into their evangelical fold. This would not be possible in most Middle Eastern countries, where there are strict laws prohibiting Christians from proselytizing Muslims. But Syrian Christians are protected by Bashar al-Assad's secular decrees and are allowed to preach in public, distribute Bibles and singing from balconies to worship with others. "We are evangelists," says John Samra, a young member of the al-Masrahih church. "We believe in announcing and bringing the message of Christ to the streets." The al-Masrahih congrega-

**'We speak of Jesus as the saviour. We don't ask about people's background: Muslim, Orthodox, whatever.'**

tion now includes several former Muslims, Catholics, and Orthodox Christians.

Perhaps unsurprisingly, this causes some resentment among the Muslims of Syria's other faiths. "These churches secretly send people to our churches to recruit new members," says one Syrian Orthodox priest. "They give people money to join them." Allegations of bribery and secret recruitment are heard in other old churches across Damascus. However, the critics ask, can one explain the number of poor Syrians who are joining the evangelical churches?

Serious hardship all this while. "We have this negative view," he says. "It is a lack of knowledge based on ignorance. They call us Jehovah's Witnesses. They call us Jews." Samra says his church doesn't invite anyone. It does, however, give food to several hundred Iraqi Christians who have been forced from their homes by Muslims and have found refuge in Damascus.



It is difficult to see religious improving much between Syria's evangelicals and the country's more established churches. Christianity has deep and strong roots here. Jesus was born in the Middle East, and as many Eastern Orthodox Christians are quick to point out, this is Christianity's spiritual home. The church's long history in Syria is evident everywhere in the country. John the Baptist's head is allegedly held in the Umayyad Mosque, which was once an ancient Christian church, and Epiphany's Easter monuments still dot the desert wilderness.

But the past century has witnessed a resurgence of the Middle East's Christianity-driven war by nationalism and religion is tension across the region. Christianity is comparatively safe in Syria, but many Syrian Christians fear their position might change under the threat of Islamic rule since al-Assad's regime collapses. Hundreds of thousands have emigrated. "We have problems

with the youth who think that because we are a minority is not our country," says Demetrius at the monastery of Saint Maron, carved into the face of a cliff looking out over desert sands north of Damascus. "We have to work on the idea that this is our country. This is where Christianity began, and it is where we want to stay."

Those Christian religious leaders who have watched the diminishing presence of their faith in the region are perhaps loath to see their faith's link further through conversion, even to other Christians in the region. For the religious, progress among some Christians in Syria is strangely at odds with examples of religious harmony between Muslim and Christian in the country. At the Convent of Our Lady in the village of Kaddaya, Muslim families, the women's hair covered by hijabs, pray beside Christians before an icon of the Virgin Mary, reportedly painted by Saint Luke. "Ten years married, no baby," one of the

brothers with Christians are proven by Bashar al-Assad's secular dictatorship

steps, adding to the diversity of a Muslim chapel emerging from the desert. The walls are covered with numerous Arabic gifts by women who converted after praying before the icon. "You Muslims pray here too," the sister tells me, as if it's nothing out of the ordinary. "Mary is the mother of the savior world." It is not unusual in the Middle East for such an intimately sacred space to be simultaneously used by members of both religions.

Christianity and Islam share a common and often intertwined history. Theirs will up-

portant in Christianity's Eastern home in a way that has been largely forgotten in Europe and North America. Indeed, Arab Christians are perhaps more uniquely placed than any other group to bridge the gap between Islam and the West—sharing, as they do, religion with one society and culture with the other.

Evangelical Christianity has roots in the West, which partially explains some of the hostility faced in the Middle East. But both in support and opposition agree on one thing: as war, and violence, is growing, it



## RUSSIA: A LAND WITHOUT VOOKA

With recent riots of food and strikes making up to 54 per cent of some Russian market problems, the government has introduced ration stamps for all domestically produced goods. But on Jan. 1, when the stamps were due to arrive, they were held back by retailers, forcing the Russian vodka-distilling industry to come to a halt. Officials fret about shortages in the alcohol-soaked nation and even commentators have warned of riots and even revolutions.

# YOU'VE GOT TOO MUCH MAIL

Companies are starting to fight back against an avalanche of email that's stressing out employees while leaving executives 'battered to death'

**BY KAPRINE MACLEAN** • About a year ago, Jon Coleman set an ambitious and unrealistic goal for his department of 100 people. He asked his staff to reduce their email volume by 25 per cent over the course of 12 months. A vice president with the pharmaceutical firm, Coleman felt that email had gotten out of control. "Many people judge their productivity based on how many emails they're responsible for," he says. "That's a ridiculous measure."

Coleman isn't alone in his view. Originally hired as a more senior staff office worker, email has emerged as the scourge of the modern workplace. With that upbeat ding—the email equivalent of a happy face—announcing the arrival of every message, email has added stress levels in cubicles around the world. It demands ever-increasing hours. It's prompted a bulky juggle for the on-call and a hiding place for the ignominious. It can even be credited with introducing new forms of rudeness, as wireless thumbs messages below the table in wireless handheld devices during meetings or conferences or, just, during the lunch break.

Now the backlash is growing. "You've gotten to the point where people stay in their offices and send an email rather than get out of their chair to cross the hall," says Coleman. And so, on the verge of an employee conference on office culture, he's tried to charge to run in the hallway. He brought an email message to provide tips on efficient email use. He keeps a file of inappropriate emails, "mostly pick on anyone," he says, but he keeps examples of what not to do. In fact, his group introduced Friday 5:30 to 5:45, a day an email message is free of 6 p.m. and 6 a.m., and on weekends. "The agent of the whole idea is to enable employees to disconnect when they go home, so they are all the more productive when they get back to work," he explains.

Coleman's message about email is backed up by research. A survey conducted by TNS Research (see Howler) Packard found that two out of three office workers check email after office hours and when on holiday. A recent Reuters survey of 1,200 business professionals around the world revealed that executives are suffering from an overload of e-mails, most of which is delivered by email. Two thirds told that



TWO OUT OF THREE office workers check email after office hours and when on holiday

**Employees copy their bosses on low-priority messages, also known as CYA (Cover Your Ass) mails**

the stress had damaged their personal relationships, increased tension with colleagues, and contributed to a decline in job satisfaction. Email has become so indispensable that the idea of a system that reduces IT messages quake. A survey conducted by Veritas Software Corp., a U.S. storage software provider, found that one third of IT managers would see an email envelope at their company on par with a car wreck or a divorce, in terms of stress levels.

The new technology has encouraged an addiction. In what's considered a first, a 19-year-old in Scotland was referred to counseling last year after his employer discovered he was sending up to 500 messages a day—8,000 over three months—most of them to his girlfriend. (It seems the didn't reciprocate

the two are no longer together.) After the wife eventually sent a message intended for the girlfriend in an office cubicle, he quit his job rather than face disciplinary action. "He was suffering from severe anxiety when he wasn't getting any reply, which was contributing to his stress and email over-reliance," Philip Irvine, project leader of Birmingham's Council on Alcohol Trust, where the man was being treated, told the *Greenwich Weekly*. "This incident has all the hallmarks of any classic addictions, where mental health problems such as depression, low self-esteem and relationship difficulties occur as a result of the addiction." The man, who wasn't identified by name, told the BBC there was something comforting about morning messages: "It's like a game of ping pong," he said, "so you send out and then get one back."

**T**he constant flow of email can feed emotional dependence and obsession. "We're obsessed by the idea that our importance is linked to how busy we are—which is rubbish," says Ann Seaton, a Montreal-based consultant with the Institute for Business Technology. Seaton's client last

weekday morning such as Clara Delgado and Rosalinda. "We coach people every day on how to manage the double-edged sword of email," she says. She claims client Seaton after discovering 10,000 messages in an employee's inbox, 8,000 of them answered. Seaton chose to target her advice. But before Seaton could connect with the worker, he quit. "When someone is drinking, at close listening out, they suddenly catch the hand that comes to help," Seaton says. "They see it as a threat."

The other problem is the loss of productivity from all the interruptions. Email traffic around the world clocks in at 141 billion messages a day, up from 5.1 billion five years ago, according to the Radicati Group, a technology and market research firm in Palo Alto, Calif. The typical business worker is interrupted on an eight-hour day, leading one researcher to conclude that email consumes about 18 per cent of a knowledge worker's day, or 28 billion hours per year in the United States. At an average cost of \$12 an hour, the

costing, about 20 years ago, the advised clients to check email first thing in the morning. Now, as part of an email-management strategy, the tech executives to focus on something that quickly impacts the first hour of their day—and to keep their email checked off.

It's not so much the interruption itself that takes up time, but rather the delay in never handling the interruption and getting back to where you were. Equally as an extra of multiple windows on computer screens, people often forget what they were doing. Mary Czerwinski, a computer scientist at Microsoft who studies how computer-aided human behavior, says knowledge workers constantly shift from one project to another like bees on a rose garden. After dealing with an interruption, workers jump to a new project about 60 per cent of the time, rather than return to the original task. On average, it takes 25 minutes to hop through all the subsequent interruptions, and finally return to where you were doing at the first place. All

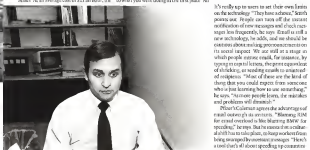
that they suggested email interruptions with the test of their work, their IQ fell by a "shocking" 10 points—the equivalent damage of losing a night's sleep, or more than double the four-point score drop found in pot smokers. The onslaught of messages left them more beleaguered and slow. "We have found that this obsession with looking at messages, if unchecked, will damage a worker's performance by reducing their mental sharpness," White reports. "Think a very real and widespread phenomenon."

But it's worth a pause to think of all the other ways, says Richard Smith, a professor of communication at B.C. Victoria Fraser University.

**Email interruptions caused workers' IQ to drop 10 points—more than double the drop for pot smokers**

It's really up to users to set their own limits on the technology. "They have a choice," Smith points out. People can turn off the constant notification of new messages and check messages less frequently, he says. Email is still a new technology, he adds, and we should be cautious about making commitments on its social impact. "We use it as a stage in our lives where email, for instance, by typing in capital letters, the great equivalent of shouting, or sending emails to a stack of recipients. "Most of these are the kind of things that you could expect from someone who is just learning how to use something," he says. "As more people learn, the mistakes and problems will diminish."

But Coleman agrees on the advantage of email over other communication. "Blowing RIM for email covered to like blowing BMW for speed," he says. But he stresses on a cultural shift has to take place, to keep workers from being swayed by message messages. "Here's a (real) thing about speeding up computer content, but does exactly the opposite when it's used in the wrong way," he points out. "If we want to be more innovative in learning new products or competing with our competitors, there is no time to waste. Employees are spending so much time as possible focused on email, and so much time as possible ignoring new products. By reducing the volume of email in our organizations, we allow people to focus on business building and not on paper shuffling." Coleman won't know how successful his campaign has been until the spring, when he'll receive data on email usage for his group. But already, his own inbox is lighter, he says, and demands less of his time. Which means more time for more substantial work—what email was supposed to allow office workers to do in the first place. ■



cost to U.S. business is \$58 billion. "Only recently have we started to look at the dark side of email," says Ashish Gupta, a visiting assistant professor at Oklahoma State University who studied group interaction within an email environment in his Ph.D. dissertation. "There are so many problems creeping up due to email use. How frequent are the interruptions? How much time is wasted when an email comes in and changes a task? It's much more than just paper push."

"It's a very letter for the executives," says Seaton. "Leaders get battered to death by email." The "no" background of the problem, so employees often there better on low priority messages, also known as CYA (Cover Your Ass) emailing. When Seaton first started

because of one email.

Czerwinski's research's pure academics. It will eventually find design ideas for new computers. In experiments with over 200 42-inch screens, for instance, volunteers subjects found a easier to organize their various windows when they could see them all displayed on a large surface. Office workers already do this in an ad hoc sort of way—using the walls of Post-it notes around a monitor. A bigger screen, of course, won't eliminate email, but it might help people use it in smarter ways.

There would be important, an email may currently be making an impact. Glenn White, spokeswoman at King's College, London University, monitored office workers and found





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### PROFILE



**SETTLE DATE:** Plasterwood during his short years with the Caceras family, and as his new home was a place for abused women.

## BLIND, HOMELESS TRAPEZE ARTIST SAVES WOMAN FROM DROWNING

**BY NICHOLAS BÖHLE** — Kadi Plasterwood had sunk pretty low—lower still considering his high flying past. In 2009, he was likely the only gaily clad trapeze artist at Las Vegas. Now he was homeless and sleeping on the banks of Vancouver's Fraser River. He was lying there in his plywood shack earlier this month when a pickup truck lost control and plunged into the waters. Plasterwood—who can't swim—did what any gaily clad trapeze artist would be asked to do: He offered help. He helped save a drowning woman, carried her to a police command post. Now, at 32, he may get a second chance at a relaxing life that for a time—he'd named his shack on

Born in Vancouver, Plasterwood was adopted by a Vermont, U.S., couple. "He was really hyperactive," his mother, Patricia, says. "I can't count the number of times I have given my mom and dad a heart attack," says Plasterwood, who climbed B.C. pines as a boy and then became a trapeze artist. He fell into trouble with police as a teen, eventually landing at a farm for young offenders. Back at home at 18, his family told him to get a job or leave his dad's bar, running away to a circus that took him back to Vancouver and then to the U.S. as a tramp. "What drew me to the circus? The horses, initially," he says. "And the pretty girls in tights, swivel."

Still, Plasterwood avoided the performance as he shelved the elephant ring. It was during such chores—poor man's circus, pushing up pulling down the modern day big top—that he met the man who would change his life: Plasterwood, who without prescription lenses is legally blind in several U.S. states, tripped over some rigging, falling into the

embrance of the Flying Caceras, a Colombian trapeze family, who moved to his aid. The parents, Miguel Caceras, had also escaped to the circus as a young man from his hometown of Bogotá. He formed the troupe with his circus performer wife, Luz, later raising their two children, George and Kaitia.

By the time Plasterwood scrambled into their lives, his young dad without family, the Caceras could hear their daughter, whose fall was ringing from the swing car above them. Plasterwood saw a place for himself. "He kind of took

**"What drew me to the circus? The horses—and the pretty girls in tights, swivel"**

me," said Kaitia, now 17. "He was young and scrappy and he didn't really have any friends." Plasterwood helped Miguel Caceras to his first job, performing on an impromptu flip "He got his license," says Caceras, who blind his young son. "I didn't know he was blind," he adds. "I had known at that point he couldn't see."

Caceras swapped his private in the family workshop, curing each trick into a spectacle. It

for the easy double loop, 37 for the more difficult triple somersault. "I was like, 'Olympic,'" says Plasterwood. Four months later, he debuted in Nashville before thousands. After seven years, performing from Mexico City to Miami, the Caceras believed they had one of the top acts in the world. "Me, he was family. 'He's my boy,'" says Miguel Caceras. "I taught him like he was my son."

In spite of their position, Plasterwood left the troupe in 1999—in Kaitia's past, he "was away and join the town." His mother, bought a house in Las Vegas, and opened a cafe. Nothing worked out. A car accident led to back injuries he's yet to recover from and the collapse of his marriage. Drinking has made it worse, then to Vancouver for work. Plasterwood wound up by the Fraser. "Stepping outside today was a relief," he says.

Then Plasterwood saw the truck plunge into the river. He threw off his coat, wading in after the woman and shouting for help. After a police officer dragged her ashore, he started CPR on Plasterwood's instruction. The headlines drew the curious to the river and his shack. One couple asked him to be a trapeze artist. "I was like, 'I was a trapeze artist,'" he says. "I was a trapeze artist."

With Nancy Macdonald



### LIFESTYLE OF THE RICH AND LOUSY

Many don't say happiness is even good for you. Michael Corbett, 23, has become notorious in Britain for wearing 320 million in a lottery and launching a party seven years worth as driving down a street trying to be happy at cars and shops from a cocaine jump. Yet despite his fortune, whose arrival was charged with something he applied for and got legal aid. Officials are even getting him a man who owns three houses got it.

# Yes, Canada also had slaves—for 200 years

How a defiant black woman sought her freedom, and likely razed Montreal's core

BY BRIAN KETNER • In 1713, the governor general of New France, the Marquis de Beauharnois, found him self in need of a hangman and executioner, a position more colonial societies had trouble keeping manned. So he obtained, from the Caribbean island of Martinique, a black slave and connected him to a Montreal merchant named Mathieu Lefeville. Given the choice of being executed or being executed, Lefeville agreed to sell to the French north. He never actually adapted well in Canada (for, perhaps, to his left, lying in government in 1716, even though the government had bought him a slave woman "to warm his bed.") But during his three years in Quebec, Lefeville did his duty by the society that kept him in bondage, most famously in 1714, when he returned, strangled and hanged his fellow slave, Marie Joseph Angélique, for the crime of burning down the central core of Old Montreal.



THE PRISONER by François Muloppe de Beaumont depicts what many have become of Canadian slave slaves

and Angélique, for one, found a miserable life. She was born a slave in Portugal. From there, a Flemish owner brought her to New England, only to sell her to wealthy Montreal trader François Paul de La Roche and his wife, Thérèse de Courcey. There was in 1713, when Angélique was 20. Over the next few years she bore three children (a son, two girls) who (further down), all of whom would also have been the property of the de La Roche family had they survived infancy. Marie Joseph died suddenly in November 1713, Angélique—according to the trial record—because a changed woman. She had a new lover and

the household, an embittered white indigenous servant named Claude Thibault. She began making aggressive demands for her liberty—Cooper speculated (frankly) she may have used her as a concubine) persuaded her friends after his death—and the naming to "free" the new widow and her white servants after Thibault's death the night.

When Thibault responded to Angélique's demands, reign of terror by setting her to a Quebec City acquaintance (for 250 kg of gun powder), the widow was sold Angélique she'd been sold. Knowing that she would be sent down river to Quebec after she broke on the St. Lawrence in the spring of 1714, Angélique and Thibault attempted a December escape to New England. They were caught after two weeks on the run, and Angélique was returned, still rebellious, after months. Then, on April 10, only days before her arrival in Quebec City would begin

## She was tortured, strangled and hanged by a fellow slave

again, the new was coming from the de Franchette's wife. Spent by fleeing through the woods, the slave caught through the merchants' quarter, engaging 46 buildings, including the city's central theatre, the Hôtel-Dieu convent and hospital. Miraculously, no one was hurt. The search for a culprit didn't take long.

Angélique defended herself with confidence and composure, claiming witnesses who testified about her defiance and subtly changing her story over the two-month trial. But she was a Black slave woman in a masculinized city desperately seeking escape. Still protesting her innocence, she was found guilty, then strangled, her leg bones shattered by Lefeville and she ended up being the first.

Did she? It seems likely that her confusion may have been incited under torture, but her statements also seemed to be a plea for Thibault, who had no way of the life, never to be seen again. And if she would not do, despite her story—a final act of courageous defiance from a woman who refused to accept her fate. ■



### THE VATICAN: A PAPAL SECRET SERVICE DETAIL

This past Sunday marked the 500th anniversary of the first recruitment of Swiss Guards by Pope Julius II. In 1506, the Swiss citizens were disproportionately poor and many Swiss males were forced to seek work abroad as mercenary soldiers. The pope and his father-in-law, the Vatican, during a period of severe political turbulence. Today they form an honored guard, wearing the same colors as that of the 16th-century Swiss Guard, Leo B.

# Managing investments

## Make yours an "automatic success"

As an investor you want to make all the right moves. First you create a carefully thought-out investment plan. Then you make that plan come alive with well-chosen investments. But what about managing those investments going forward? How can you respond effectively to the inevitable changes in the market, while at the same

time remain diversified and on course with your plan?

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# BUILT FOR SPEED

the athletes face down and motionless on the sled while a giant fan buffets them with 120 km/h winds. Sweden's control room does most of the steering, while the Singapore-style cable cars, taken over from the National Research Council and the Canadian Olympic Committee, watch the screens and scribble notes. Each skier makes out multiple combinations of signs and helmets for aerodynamicists.

After whispered consultations, they make minor adjustments to the angle of their long legs, hands and arms, tucked against the sides of their bodies, are aimed over so slightly. Toward the end of the day, the technicians inject a thin ribbon of smoke into the tunnel, as video cameras capture the curves and eddies flowing over heads, shoulders and backpacks. All in the hunt for that fraction of a second.

Thus, the reigning world champion, thanks back over his 10-year sliding career and can recall at least three occasions where he has lost a race by 1/100th of a second. In his 2001 season, one of those tight finishes was the rules of physics. But ignorance is no excuse in the eyes of nature's law. There are some basic limitations to how fast you can skid, or slide, and it all has to do with the relationship between power and speed. The bigger the object, the more power it takes to accelerate. And the faster you go, the more the forces working against you—friction, air drag—compete to hold you back. Doubling your velocity, whatever it's in skating, driving, swimming or even downy skiing, increases the wind drag by a factor of four. And that means you

up to 80% faster," says Paine, who finished sixth in Salt Lake, a 96 off the gold medal pace. "Because I've done 1,400 runs and none of them have been perfect yet."

It's a safe bet that not many Olympics are the journalists who cover them—have more than a nodding acquaintance with the

**For downhill skiers, a 10th of a second means 3 m—more than the margin of victory**

important is a quick dash for the push, or a long grind toward a distant finish line.

"Candlemaking and the making of the athlete are the two things a scientist and a doctor, but make like a scientist and add to the advantage," says Chertko, the man, possibly the only one with a scientific revolution in sports. In 1971, when he was a professor of mechanical engineering at California State University, Long Beach, he overheard a student project that discovered that 90 per cent of the assistance to the skier



**Talent, desire, training—they mean nothing if you haven't got the fastest suit in the world**

**BY JONATHAN SATEMBOURNE** • There's not much you can do in a 10th of a second. The sprinters need about 1% times that to react to the starter's gun. The blink of an eye lasts three or four times as long. Skimming on the bobsled in a car requires a relative eternity—two full seconds.

Olympic athletes live by a different clock.

For speed skaters, the men's 500 m, a 10th of a second is 149 cm. On a downhill straight away with a 1% degree slope, it's three metres. For luge, the men's 100 m, it's 1.1 m. In the Winter Games, a 10th of a second is the margin between total failure and absolute victory.

The war with the stopwatch is obsessive, the

search for advantage endless. It's why athletes break down each element of their performance—starts, slides, turns, glides—and spend years perfecting to perfect them. It justifies the huge and modern teams that even elite athletes, filled with equipment, travel to every conceivable snow or ice condition. And it explains how Jeff Paine and the other members of Canada's skeleton team have come to spend a five victory day locked inside an Ottawa wind tunnel. Taking 45-minute shifts, dressed in their racing suits and helmets,

**WIND A DRAG** As part of Canada's technology program, dubbed "Top Secret," a skeleton team built 120 km/h winds in the wind tunnel.

difference between third and fourth place in the overall World Cup standings. (The down-on-ice Olympic bobsledding in the women's 500 m at the 1998 Nagano Games, Germany's Silke Renner won gold by two milliseconds.) For Paine, the wind tunnel is a place where he can test his theory—something he's been in his back pocket when he's sailing on the top of the iceberg. Then, in February, "I'd like my personal to be a half a second better than anyone else's, so if I were

needed to put out eight times the power to overcome the resistance and get to twice the speed.

Addressing his maker is no Olympic Games, and most especially the select sub-group with a shot at the podium, all create a virtually the same measure of power. For them, being the fastest on a given day is often about getting the best start, making the fewest mistakes, and having the most efficient equipment. It can also be a matter of aerodynamics. At the risk, for example, a hockey player

of standard bicycle came from air drag. His engineering involved, Ryle set out to build a better mannequin. His idea: a helmet with an bullet-shaped two shell—ordered drag by 50 per cent and changed the world's human-powered speed record. In 1954, he designed the helmet and uniforms for the U.S. Olympic team, which went on to win 23 medals at the Los Angeles Games, the men's first cycling hardware since 1912.

But it was Ryle's research on clothing that

# OLYMPICS

had the most for reaching effects. The

multidisciplinary team of scientists and engineers could dramatically reduce wind resistance by creating what is known as a "drag coat". In the same way that a golf ball's dimples help it cut through the air, these roughened surfaces make the flow around limbs more turbulent, leaving fewer eddies in their wake, and reducing the trailing forces. Nike noticed his players and hired him as part of their Advanced Innovation Team in 1998. They test of more than 100 fabrics and special coatings for aerodynamics, eventually coming up with their patented sub 500s suits, high-tech patchwork—rough fabrics on limbs, smooth on back and torso—that are tailored to each sport, and fit the ease of speed skating, down to the overtaking, middle or distance.

In Salt Lake City, where the U.S. and Dutch speed skating teams were outfitted by Nike, six of the 16 Olympic medalists were wearing the suit. The company says its athletes work, on average, seven miles faster. In Torino, the Canadian and U.S. hockey teams will be outfitted with their uniforms. So will most of the men's short and long track speed skating teams—the U.S., Korea, China, Belgium, the Netherlands—although Canada will announce its own December 2005. Other international

Whether the advantage is imagined or a real advance of debate. The Salt Lake Games saw individual medals in almost every sport—Teflon-soled skis for curling, specially edged snowboards, lightweight bobsled runners. Most of them were not limited success and will have been replaced with yet more innovations in Torino. The psychological effect of new and improved equipment is something the Canadian Olympic Committee no longer downplays, however. Chen the Podium, the COC's \$110-million program to help Canada rule the 2010 Vancouver Winter Games, will spend close to a quarter of its budget on technology and advanced training—an initiative dubbed "Top Secret." "In Salt Lake City we had a big effort to ensure that we had the best clothing, equipment and training," says Dr. Roger Jackson, who was arowing gold for Canada in 1966 and holds the new program. "Most Canadian athletes didn't believe we had the best stuff, and it showed." Although this country was producing a lot of medal hopefuls, they were reaching the podium only half as frequently as competitors from other top Winter Olympic nations.

Top Secret has drawn up a list of what the Canadian team needs to flourish in 2010: faster speed skating suits, new competitors for ski and snowboards, research on opponents' moving strategies, and more. Some of the difficulties—a dearth of full-time coaches, a shortage of physiotherapists and sports psychologists—have already been addressed with additional funding. Closing the technology gap isn't the star of the program, but it was expected that Canada was three years behind countries like Norway and Austria, and who know how far behind the Americans will take them. That's why most of the program efforts are being focused on aerodynamics—it's relatively cheap, and the improvements can be dramatic.

"The goal is to look at every piece of equipment an athlete wears and figure out how we can reduce drag," says Len Brownlee, a Vancouver-based sports aerodynamicist who works with Nike, and is currently consulting for Chen the Podium. "If they were a 10th of a second, I can give them that, and more." Brownlee points to his experience with Lance Armstrong. Over the course of four "three-day" tests, the Nike team came up with modifications that reduced his drag by more than 70 per cent. Incremental improvements that gave the cyclist the equivalent of a 16-second advantage in a 55-kilometer ride the first year, at 50 seconds more the second year, an additional 77 seconds the next.

Canada's ski team, which will host several strong medal contenders in Torino, may already be using the best of American science in the Olympics and can't afford the end of August led most of the delays to change helmets to more aerodynamic models. Both



Nike's 2010 suit more aerodynamic than those of competitors for medals in its speed up

the men's and women's teams are now ranked No. 1 in the world. Melissa Hollingsworth, who has made the podium in every World Cup race so far this season. "There was one belief that really stood out for me, but there are a lot of things different this year," she says. Lindsay Voeckel, the 2004 World Cup champion, says she added financial and technical support, but finally got the team on an even par with countries like the U.S. and Germany. "I just imagine how much better we could have been if we had done this earlier."

Todd Allinger, the men's coaching Top Secret, looks in the background while Al

**Rough surfaces make air flow more turbulent, leaving fewer eddies and reducing drag**

red and the other of his staff. He wanted that someone is going to split the team and give away a new hand position or body suit modification. For an Olympian, the technical edge is "the last five per cent," he says, but it doesn't make it any less important. Allinger worked in a similar role for the Americans at the last up to Salt Lake City, a Games where the U.S. won 15 medals, almost triple its previous Winter best. He knows that other countries are working on new suits, new skis, curling brooms, and everything else imaginable to provide their athletes with an advantage in Torino. The medals will be awarded only at the last minute, for maximum psychological effect, then put away immediately after the Games in hopes of preserving the advantage. Does Canada have something up its sleeve? There's a long pause. "Probably," is all he'll say. But there's a grin that leaves you think maybe he's serious. A lady athlete at least, that crucial 10th of a second may already be in the bag. [www.gutenberg.org/olympics/2010](http://www.gutenberg.org/olympics/2010)



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SPEED SKATING: The 2010 U.S. cycling team was the first to reach for designers Chen Rife

teams have introduced their own drag-reducing fabrics in helmets, and the high-tech uniforms are popping up in all sorts of disciplines, from professional basketball to rowing. That body suits are more aerodynamic than basketball jerseys is obvious, but it's also true that body suits are more aerodynamic than basketball jerseys. That's not every designer's cup of tea. "There's not every designer anymore," says Rife. "As long as it's legal, athletes will look for the best option available."

PHOTO: GREGG DEGUZMAN/GETTY IMAGES; COURTESY OF NIKI





MEDALIST: (l-r) (left) (left), (middle) (middle) and (right) (right)

he is the better person, but what if possessed in all those other areas?"

There have also been suggestions—most notably after Russia's first Skating won last year's European championships despite a horrible performance—that judges are using the new computer marks to "place" skaters, just like the bad old days. "They changed a scoring system and that was the problem," says Jon Jackson, a former U.S. figure skating judge and one of the whistle blowers in Salt Lake. "It was about judges who cheated, and a culture of corruption in figure skating that allowed it to happen again and again."

The ISU made only token efforts to deny these, says Jackson, who has just published *On Edge*, an exposé of the sport's backstage dealings. *Maria de la Vieja*, the French official whose Salt Lake placed the Russian pair, Elena Berezhnaya and Anton Khudobin, ahead of Salda and Pelletier, and Didier Gafuagat, the president of the Fédération Française des sports de glace who presided here to do it, have fled their 18 month suspensions—though an Olympic ban makes them ineligible for reinstatement. The Russians, who were allegedly set to return the favor by voting for a French ice dancing couple, were investigated but never punished. (Jackson met at any conventional fashion—most of those implicated, *Cherish Noyes*, head of the Russian youth sports federation, fled in a white van in Moscow last August.) And things are getting much more, says Jackson, who was part of a failed bid to start a real international skating body. The cooled judges continue to cut deals, and the honest ones, scared of being singled out by the ISU's auditors for giving "unacceptable" marks, are going along with the herd.

Russia's Boudier-Garbino, who was a no more member of the ISU for 25 years, is also an outspoken critic of the new system. "I'm afraid you lack any credibility in our sport," the

**The new system will not prevent cheating, says David Pelletier. "If somebody cheats now, we'll never find out."**

says from her home in Malta. "And it has thrown away the credibility of our sport, and it's something that means pollution and the dream of every skater." Blanchard Garbino, whose pair placed here in all, Czech pair, holds the Code of Points responsible for even more. "It's a disaster," she says. "It's a disaster." She says the program is causing injuries as skaters' bodies break down under the intense training, she says, and injury is being suffered in the sport for years. "Right now skating is losing its beauty. It is turning from a graceful sport to a difficult sport."

And whether it's the lingering terrors of scandal, or the challenge of the new judging system, there's no denying that skaters are increasingly turning the sport out. Canadian TV ratings for the 2004 world championships were barely half of what they were in 2001. Viewership for the World Canada international has dropped 22 per cent in five years. American TV ratings are even sadder in the west. At the Canadian championship in Ottawa, there were plenty of empty seats.

But defenders of the new system point out that figure skating is as broken as figure skating was before it was fixed. Paul Martin, whose pair won world championship for Canada along with Ilia Kulik, and is now a commentator for CBC TV, insists against such a judgment. "It's a blemish. It's a blemish on a new world. It's going to take some time, people." While he agrees that the Code of Points has led to some of the "bad" use of performances, he's optimistic that the competitive nature will soon bring them back, and today's problems pale against the long-term benefits.

As a skater, as a commentator, I don't talk about the judges anymore," says Martin. "It used to be that one person, like Le Grange, held the balance of power. That's not the case anymore, and that's huge." And what couldn't be overlooked is that most skaters like the change, especially the duo skating system, which has been known possibly what they did right and wrong. At the Canadian championships, the first year after the loss and cry for many competitors was a computer set up in the hallway so they could check out the judges' reports. Marie France Delval and Patricia Lacombe, the Canadian ice dancing champions and a legitimate medal threat in Turin, were on the verge of quitting the sport before the system was changed. "There was no clear explanation of why and how certain results were happening," says Delval. "In the 2001 Worlds in Germany, we skated three perfect programs, but the results were terrible and disappointing. And our motivation was much lower. It was a shock." Where ratings only seemed to change if someone crashed through the boards under the old system, the Code of Points has turned ice skating into a real competition. Backed by the changes, the couple are enjoying their best season ever, with two gold medals so far as the world does. "I think they've managed to bring the package all together," says Lacombe. "We're mentally and physically stronger, our skates are much better, we're right on, our choreography is amazing, everything is falling into place. The judging system just makes a career to get the rewards."

For the skaters (all members of the ISU), the new system is a disaster. The Code of Points is a disaster. On the phone from a disaster, Pelletier says that system is as in, movement, but so is movement. The ISU needs to do these things, not just change the judging, he says. "You can have the greatest system in the world, but if you don't have the credibility of the people administering it, you're not there." He and Salda, his new bride, skate on the same ice as their old gold medalists in Salt Lake, Tamara and Ilia Kulik, with whom they have become good friends, although they never discuss the scandal. The crowd for the professional skaters is still good, but Pelletier says he understands why the skating scene is in trouble. "I don't watch anything because it's fixed. Why would anybody watch figure skating if they think it's the same way?" Salda and Pelletier will be in Turin working for NBC next month, watching skating from the side lines. They both hope the Olympic will be an important milestone on the long road back to credibility for the sport they love, but their experience makes them pessimistic. "If someone cheats now, we'll never find out," says Pelletier. "It's the beauty for the ISU."

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# AN ICE QUEEN'S FIRE

Cindy Klassen is our best hope for multiple medals at this year's Games

BY KEN MAGUIRE • It's hard to believe at the Calgary Olympic Oval, but Cindy Klassen is really asking conducting an interview with Madison while demolishing two women's home-made stand ovens. Like grown over more intense this Olympic season for the 26-year-old Winnipegger, she ended her hockey stick for speed skates eight years ago and never looked back. She flew into Salt Lake City in 2002—under the radar or in all but the apocalyptic fraternity and the most long-tradition Danish nation. She promptly won Canada's first medal of the Games, silver in the 1,000 m, before her family even arrived in Utah. Parents Helen and Jake Klassen won't make that mistake twice—not with the expectations heaped on their daughter for Torino. They're booked two weeks in July.

Speed skaters, both the long and the ice, never-there-again athletes, have generated an astounding 26 percent of all Canadian medals at the past two Winter Olympics. This year's season, on both branches of the sport, may be the most formidable yet. Of these athletes, Klassen, though you'd never hear so from her, may be the strongest of a rough lot. That says plenty, considering that several teammates—including veteran sprinter Jeremy Warneke, with a record 57 career World Cup wins, multiple Olympic medals (two golds, and rising silver Kristina Groenewoud) are among the top of the international circuit. The Canadian Olympic Committee, run by Klassen's sister, performed in the past two years, says she has the potential to be the first Canadian to ever win four medals at a single Olympic Games.

"Going into this Olympic season is a lot different," cautions Klassen. For one thing, her bronze and two fourth-place finishes in Utah gave her a new confidence. As well, she says, though you wouldn't know it from the scant remains of her second medal, "there's a lot more on my plate." The increased attention, the media interviews and other around are a reality she and her coach, Neil Mitchell, discuss and successfully simulate. "To like everything," says Mitchell. "If you have a lot of pressure on it, you'll be better at trying to cope with it when it comes."

Her mother sees a marked difference in her daughter in those Olympics, despite the odd hype. "She seems extremely calm. She says she's not going to bed at night and racing every day over to school," jokes says. "Definitely compared to the last one, where she was a

wreck, I think this is going to be better." Salt Lake is a blue, admits Klassen. "It happened so fast, I should have taken more pictures. There were so many things that I can't remember. There were so many new emotions."

Most of those emotions go unspoken. Klassen is a fascinating contradiction. Off ice, she is private, humble and low-key, doing her best, she says, to model the sense of calm and

the point of focus, and clearly inspired by her Montreal brother-in-law, the local media presence is a "fascinating blend of a bit like self-promoter and, in her body, or often out of it, a photographer's dream."

Klassen's faith is no small part of her success. It's not until her ending a devastating injury in 2001 when the fall in fact and crashed into another skater, giving 32 tendons, a severe



Just 18 months after suffering severe injuries, she was a world single distance medalist.

perspective that Warneke endures. In his position, though, she's a take no prisoners girl. "She has to let it out somewhere," says her mother. "She's a very gentle, quiet kind of person, but she's played all kinds of sports

and an injury in her right forearm. She lost a massive amount of blood. The injury threatened her career and, but for the quick response of coaches and staff, could have killed her. Even now, she has very limited movement in the body and ring fingers of her right hand, and little sensation of heat or cold."

Klassen has called the accident "the best thing that happened to my skating career. I gained a lot of perspective." Her mother, in a ruffling at the event was, doesn't disagree. "I was quite amazed at how well she took that," she says. "She was very content to see what God had in store for her." Rather a lot, it might seem. Just four months later, rested and undaunted, she won two medals in the 2004 world single distance championships. The enforced break seemed to lighten her hunger to compete. As for the fresh perspective, it can only lighten the load of a no-nonsense bays. ■

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# Rope-a-dope

**Will a new regimen of stringent drug tests really clean up the Games?**

**BY KEN MACQUEEN** • It would be fair to say we're all better than Scotty. When Scotty is—besides being Canada's queen of cross-country skiing and the national anthem to Ben Johnston—is a hard-nosed realist, albeit one with a wry laugh and an infectious smile. Ask her what the likelihood is she'll find a pristine grain of competition in Turin and she'll tell you how far she's come to clean her out of a gold in Salt Lake City four years ago, and she'll smile a little. "I think the field is cleaner," she says. "I wouldn't say much cleaner," she adds. "There's still a long road ahead before we're really clean sport."

There was a time, it seems long ago now, when she actually believed that cross-country



**Don't hold your breath, says Becky Scott. There's still a long road ahead before we see a really clean sport.'**

skiing was as pure as the driven snow. How could you not wish that of a sport you love, of a sport that consumed so much of her childhood winters in Vernon, Alta., and has defined her entire adult life? That honest idealism—a kind of that unadorned optimism racing through snow-filled forests and fields—begins to melt away by 1997, when she learned of a Russian competitor caught skidding wax as pure as the driven snow. How could you not wish that of a sport you love, of a sport that consumed so much of her childhood winters in Vernon, Alta., and has defined her entire adult life? That honest idealism—a kind of that unadorned optimism racing through snow-filled forests and fields—begins to melt away by 1997, when she learned of a Russian competitor caught skidding wax as pure as the driven snow.

and its appeal, and a ruling by the court of arbitration for sport.

Even before this, Scott was a critical firing athlete and inadequate training. Her honest condemnation sparked a deal with perhaps the only Canadian in sport more outspoken on the subject than she: Richard Pound, the veteran Canadian member of the IOC and chairman of the Montreal-based World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA). When Scott was drafted to transport cheating in the 2002 Games, Pound fired back, demanding proof instead of a "trust." A war of words followed, but over time they also formed an uneasy alliance. "Becky got a better model," Pound says today. "It was the guys in suits who got her to gold. We were working for exactly the same thing that she was, but you have to have credible evidence of the doping practice." Scott is now one of 12 international sport scientists on WADA's athletes' committee. She's also Canada's nominee for a prestigious seat on the IOC, a vote that will be held in Turin. Are she and Pound going to say, "Trust," Scott says with a shrug, "he's already said it."

Pound is more optimistic than his former sporting partner about the prospects of a cleaner Olympics in Turin. Much has changed since Salt Lake City, he says. There is now a world anti-doping code in place, and a universal regard to set of sanctions and governmental responses to infractions. In theory, at least. Cheating isn't fully invisible on applying modern anti-doping laws, but still, he's not entirely pessimistic about the prospects of a cleaner Olympics in Turin. Much has changed since Salt Lake City, he says. There is now a world anti-doping code in place, and a universal regard to set of sanctions and governmental responses to infractions. In theory, at least. Cheating isn't fully invisible on applying modern anti-doping laws, but still, he's not entirely pessimistic about the prospects of a cleaner Olympics in Turin.

However, doubts of the IOC's resolve, look at the 2002 Summer Olympics in Athens, says Pound. He is, quite literally, a peering

man, brooding cheating athletes and the Olympic committee. More than 20 athletes were shown the gate or were later stripped of medals for doping, or for notoriously unpleasant schemes to substitute urine samples. "We got people then not just for passing joints," he says, "but for rehydrating tests, and for using some of these infernal devices that they were stuffing up their butts with somebody else's urine." As telling, he says, were those steroid lifts from athletes during the Games, and those who escaped testing by feigning at the back of the pack.

While Pound claims to have limited victory, disgraced Canadian athlete Ben Johnston says otherwise. Johnston—who participated in international fixtures and a national cross-country event when he was stripped of his gold medal at the 1998 Games in Seoul for using positive for anabolic steroid—made headlines in Britain earlier this year by insisting 40 per cent of people in sport are cheating. "It is not only track and field, there are soccer players, football players, basketball players, cyclists," he said. He offered no evidence, and Pound dismisses his claims as baseless rubbish. "I don't consider him a particularly reliable source about anything," he says, "including the day of the week."

Still, almost 18 years after Johnston's disgrace, the only certainty is that the cheating has grown more elaborate, as have the measures to combat it. Today's Olympic athletes can expect to be tested not only if they're in medals, but also during non-Olympic events and during training. There are even surprise visits to athletes' homes—a violation of privacy that would be considered intolerable

**RACE MAKING:** Scott and Pound have been on a winning streak. (Left) Pound (left)



BECKY SCOTT AND RICHARD POUND. SCOTT'S MILEAGE OF A FULL-TIME ANTI-DOPING AGENT BEGAN IN 1997 WHEN SHE LEARNED OF A CHEAT'S DRUG USE



PERFORMING HER DUTY: Scott's mission of a full-time anti-doping agent began in 1997 when she learned of a cheat's drug use

way that would be considered intolerable in Turin, athletes will be half-alert in many tests as well as checked in Utah. Ask Pound, athletes can't be trusted. "I don't consider him a particularly reliable source about anything," he says, "including the day of the week."

The list of banned substances and procedures devised by WADA for international events in 2006 stretches 12 pages. It includes steroid-testing groups of anabolic agents, hormones, blood-bolsters, stimulants, narcotics, even such futuristic practices as "gene doping." Coupled with WADA's list is a 15-page set of anti-doping rules the IOC devised for Turin. Modifiers, many top athletes and all who work Olympic and world events can expect to be tested. But any athlete, at any time during the Games, is subject to random demands for "biological samples" of urine or blood. An technician for drawing tests grows, as he has the level of resistance. The rules for urine collection stretch across three pages, specifying the kind of bottle, the sample size and the disarming view of the official observer. "The athlete will be required to remove any clothing [at least pants] to knees, shirt to mid chest, and sleeves rolled

up, presenting the [observer's] direct observation of the urine sample leaving the athlete's body." If they're caught, in other words, it will be with their pants down.

A funny thing happened on the year since the Salt Lake City doping scandal: Canadian cross-country skiers—mostly Scott and her friend and teammate Sara Renner—moved reluctantly onto the World Cup circuit. There are complex reasons for this. A long sponsorship is required for Nordic skiing—an endurance sport heavy on chemistry and technique. Scott, 31, and Renner, 29, have clearly hit their prime. Their career may be another decade, too. Perhaps for the first time in their long careers they're racing against a cleaner field.

"I have hope so," says Pound. Renner and Scott add cautious agreement. "The more level the playing field, the better the chances are for people who come to the start with equal preparation," says Scott. "I definitely think that has played a role in our success."

Well, at least the majority are clean, says Renner, and the race is beyond your control. It's your performance that matters, she says. "You have to know that dopers can be better." In December, for the first time in more than a decade, no day of World Cup cross-country events were held in Canada, a near Vermont, N.C., and in Germany, also. Renner's hometown. Placement built over the course of the event, and the final races were held before morning starts under an ice-lake in Alberta. The snow was pristine, and the sounds of sawbills and the cheer of children echoed through the mountains.

By the end, Scott and Renner had climbed to win an unprecedented seven medals against an international field. But it wasn't just the winning that seemed to energize them. It looked right. It looked pure—the way racing must have been when they were kids themselves. The way it might be again. ■



## OUT OF AFRICA: A DOWNHILL SKIER

Italy's first female downhill skier could still make it to the Torino Olympics despite a knee injury. Sarah Renner, who is of both Belgian and Moroccan descent, had a 50 per cent chance of being able to compete in the Winter Olympics following injury to a ligament during a December race. Last week she underwent surgery to repair the damage, and she will test her knee during training races in Italy in the weeks leading up to her event, the giant slalom.





# 'AERIAL SKIING IS LIKE WALKING OUT ON A CLIFF AND SEEING HOW CLOSE YOU CAN GET WITHOUT FALLING OFF. RIGHT NOW, I'M STILL A GOOD FOOT FROM THE EDGE.'—CANADIAN DEIDRA DIONNE

## 1. SKATING AROUND CITIZENSHIP RULES

Since the U.S. hasn't won a figure skating medal in pairs since 1976, there was no way a Lipinski, like, say, an athlete's citizenship, was going to ruin their chances. So when it became clear that the team's best hope was Canadian-born **TARA LIPINSKI** and her American partner **Ben Agosto**, Congress recalled The government (horrified by the) citizenship process (the papers were made official on Dec. 31), proving her way to Torino—and, quite possibly, the podium.

## 2. NORWEGIAN HAS GOLD IN HIS EYES

If he covers all five events next month, biathlete **BENJAMIN WEGG** will become a 10-time gold medalist—the most decorated Olympian in history. Though it will require a Herculean effort, away say the 32-year-old

Norwegian is on the same shape he was in four years ago, when he won four gold medals in just nine days.

## 3. HOW COULD YOU NEED MORE SPEED?

As if racing down a sharp incline and catapulting 400 m through the air isn't enough, **JENNE ANTON** competes in Finland's drag racing circuit. In fact, he was the Scandinavian champion in 2004. As an individual Olympic medal in bobsledding, however, has proven elusive for the 38-year-old Finn. (Anton was a team driver in Salt Lake City.) But with several World Cup titles in 2004 and 2005, he should lead himself's list of hardware.

## 4. IT'S A LITTLE ROUGH BACK THERE

A couple of weeks ago, **KAREN OPPETUN** and **KERTTU MOISE** were down the opening stretch of

a track in Kitzbühel, Germany, on a world record 27 seconds. The "push start" sent a message to fellow bobsledders: nobody is faster out of the gate than the Canadians. A lot of credit goes to Moise, 27, the team's rockstar brakeman, who only took up the sport last fall after being recruited from the Canadian rugby team. She's a natural, winning almost every first World Cup race, but says that life in the back of the sled took some getting used to. "I discovered I have a bony bum," says the 30-year-old, 166-lb. native. "Loaded up with a few brasses, but the more you study the track you learn how to hold your body so you don't get tossed around as much."

## 5. NO NEED FOR A DISCIPLINE LESSON

Croatian **DEJANA ADAMOVIĆ** is looking at the perfect time. The 34-year-old captured her first World Cup downhill title this month and became the first woman to claim wins in all six disciplines. Kitzbühel—whose career includes 24 World Cup titles and three Olympic golds—will likely take back some more hardware to her homeland—nowhere for its skiing prowess, until now.

## 6 & 7. A FROSTY RELATIONSHIP

Send rumors that they can't stand one another, German luge legends **WOLFGANG ENDERHARDT** and **ELINE DITTO** have dominated their sport—winning each of the last six major championships. In fact, the German luge swept the medals in Salt Lake City and have not been beaten in a World Cup race since 1997. Enderhardt and Ditto, who are former teammates, had a falling out a few years ago. Although they've cut down on the number of public displays of disdain for one another, insiders say the power struggle continues. Watch for a

when the pair are standing beside each other with their medals.

## 8. TEAM CANADA'S COMEBACK KID

Freestyle skier **SHARON HOOPER** admits that the crash in September last year nearly left her paralyzed, but still finds "I can't wipe it out of my head," says Danne, 25. "Whenever I hold back, even a tiny bit, it angers me. I want to go 100 per cent, but 100 per cent is scary. Aerial skiing is like walking out on a cliff and seeing how close you can get without falling off. Right now, I'm still a good foot from the edge—but it's coming." The accident cost the Red Deer, Alberta, native, who was known as Salt Lake, three months of training and required framing her neck with a titanium plate and a piece of her leg bone. But Danne is looking forward to recapturing "I just expect to land my own toughest tricks," she says. "We'll see what happens after that."

## 9. EXPECT A BIG HARVEST THIS YEAR

**DAVID DRY** ANDERSON lives two very different lives. In one, he's a renowned snowboarder—the reigning world powder giant slalom champ. In the other, a blueberry farmer in Val-Morin, Quebec. But right now, snowboarding is in season. And Anderson, 30, is focused on improving his Olympic disappointment (he finished 14th in '98 and 20th in '02), by reliving the moment of his career's second-place World Cup ranking. The first can wait until after the closing ceremonies.

## 10. SOON TO BE IN A THEATRE NEAR YOU

If **WENDY WATSON** ANDERSON qualifies in skiing, he'll be stardom. The Eagle (The Eagle) Edwards of Torino—the fan favorite who finished last in Calgary. The "Snow Leopard" would be the first Winter

Olympian from Ghana. (Ironically, he only started competing in World Cup events—a key to Olympic qualification—eight months ago and lacks funding. (Ghana doesn't have a budget for the winter sports.) Still, he should at least get points for spirit.

## 11. HE COULD FIT A SKI IN THAT MOUTH

The only thing as big as **ANDRE MILLER**'s talent is his mouth. During a recent interview on 60 Minutes, the American curler implied that he could dunk. Then officials and sponsors balked. Miller apologized. But you can't dunk the 28-year-old team captain in curling, which is something no Olympic athlete ever does in an Olympics. But Miller claims that isn't his goal. "I am not trying to win gold medals," said Miller, who won two silvers in Salt Lake and has four world championship titles. "That's the people trying to prove

themselves." Whatever the case, he'll be the talk of Torino.

## 12. THE ROCK'S TOP STONE THROWER

**ANDRE MILLER** finished up his business administration degree at Memorial University last year, but says he won't really find the "real world." So the 30-year-old curler helped out a bit with the family construction business and focused on getting his team into the Olympics. It paid off. And now, as Team Canada's skip, Gushue has plenty of real-world experience in 25-year-old shoulders. His team (which includes James Kneib, Russ Howard and Mark Nichols), favored seven, will have to dispose of some tough competition—especially Norway, Sweden and Switzerland. Canada is by far the deepest country, says Gushue. "But people don't realize that the top teams from other countries are just as good as our top ones." M



lopping jobs she made wear coats and sold them to local boutiques. Suddenly she was in business. "I felt there was a market for the beast," she says with a laugh. "I had to organize, find people, a place to go."

She changed her first runway show into a collection in 1998. Audem came quickly. The next year she was asked to be the first Quebec designer to participate in the Fashion Centre of New York Awards and exhibitions on "mini pro-

ductions." "Just wonderful," she says. That year, in a prime downtown location on the Montreale, she had only one place that carries both full lines. Over the years, distribution has been erratic. A 10-hour boutique opened in 1994 but closed a few years later when management proved overcautious. The line has been sold off and on in various states, including Mode Nord, but mostly west of Ontario. Exporting to Europe and the U.S. was difficult with the euro, while Canadian dollar and Kaffeehaus finally seemingly de-

scribed women and children. And her name appears alongside those of prominent Quebecers such as Lucie Robitaille and Pierre Fortin on "A Clear Byrd Voice of Quebec," a most pertinent manifesto intended to spark discussion about challenges facing the province—the depletion of natural resources, decline in the education system, a declining population and high teenage unemployment. She says her worries for the next generation, which includes her own two children, is that broader perspective she allows



QUEBEC TEND TO STARTS from Pierre's various projects. Her inventive fabrications—crinkled, painted—were what first attracted Adrienne Courbois

emerging" line followed. In 1995, she showed in Paris, the first Quebec designer to be given a show there.

In selling her business, Marie-Soleil Pierre-Benoit Inc., with its now-partnership between 15 and is depending on the season, has been a constant struggle. Her New York ready wear

struggled to attract Canadian fashion retailers during 2000. Since it is a 2 percent of Saint-Pierre's sales, she has to sell it as a 10 percent. She has the option to buy back the line, but she has to be prepared to accept the distributor's offer to be sold to the highest bidder.

Her website has become her major marketing tool. Made advertising doesn't make

## 'She isn't trying to torture material into shapes that have nothing to do with the way women are shaped'

debut in 1995 took place within all boxes of the bin but her first child. She has a career that has been a mix of success and failure. "A woman in fashion with business is not the right combination," she says. Finally support has been vital, her mother and sister, Danielle, work for the company.

Saint-Pierre's innovative fabrications—crinkled, painted, woven and ribbed—were what first attracted Courbois over a decade ago. "I responded to her because the animal prints, the shapes that have nothing to do with the way women are shaped," Courbois also likes Saint-Pierre's playful sense of humor. She tells the story of visiting the Montreal boutique and finding that, when she was inspired by drawings done by kindergarten classmates of Saint-Pierre's

financial sense, she says, unless you have "a big product" to sell, meaning the creative and artistic background that she has and her sense of most big named designers. She looks to the bright side of the retail sector, that being the exclusivity valued by her devoted customers.

Fashion is not Saint-Pierre's only focus. She's active in charities that assist imper-

Saint-Pierre to question fashion industry trends. She knows she could charge more for her clothing, but she chooses not to. "People with a lot of money don't buy from Canadian fashion," she says. "It doesn't have status." Her clothing is made in 100% silk, partly in defiance of the 10% tariff. "I didn't see why I should have to conform to measures used in the U.S. or Europe," she says.

She is particularly critical of how fashion is now driven by publicity, controversy and celebrity endorsements. "It's a huge victory. The emphasis is only on the commercial aspect." That situation could never be resolved at Saint-Pierre. "She's one of the only designers in Canada who's true spirit," says Marie-Laurence, the co-owner of Montreal's Fashion. "I know I see that same pure heart of her collection." "The real part was her staff. It's a piece of art," he



## WHAT THEY GOT FOR IT... WILLIAM SHATNER

From the hosts of that space series that collected more than an online online last week, we heard of William Shatner's latest move. Golden Palace came paid \$25,000 for the full of Shatner's history, and the former star of Star Trek will donate the proceeds to Habitat for Humanity, a housing charity. He said the little star's happy new career. Golden Palace owner CEO Richard Brown. "This is a lot of money for a new addition to our fleet."

LEFT: COURBOIS; MIDDLE: SHATNER; RIGHT: SHATNER'S NEWEST PROJECT, GOLDEN PALACE, WHICH HE DONATED TO HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

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BROWNING IS TOO WEAR as Brian Boitano, but the two are enthusiastic, well-choreographed and rhythmic

## Triple Axels and teetering ankles

Low-rung stars wreak havoc with toe picks in a figure-skating reality show

**BY BRADNA DEBEL** • "There's no certain level of chaos," admits Kurt Browning as he talks about his TV-viewing show, *Skating with Celebrities* (Monday), which gives the Olympic skaters with low- to mid-level skills "I mean, hell!" Browning is, after all, one of figure skating's more flamboyant stars. And his partner in this on-ice jinx is the five-year-old singer Debbie Gibson. The show also features walking punchlines: Doree "Uncle Joey" Conder (Paul Hasey) and Tisha "Child Star Gone Wrong" Bridges (Duff McShane). If this reality TV hierarchy goes something like this—*The Amazing Race* and *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* are the class acts, while *The Bachelor*, *The Contender* and *Roseanne* are the slightly saccharine—the *Skating with Celebrities* (like its precursor, *Skating with the Stars*) is in the middle. "I'm not happy nobody's made it look foolish," says Browning. "We're not making them in a house and saying you have to eat out till you have no more. We're made fun of a little bit, but we know that was going to happen. You're trying to learn to figure skate and you're Tisha Bridges—she's funny."

Turns out, he's right. Bridges can't do a Salchow on ice, his life, and his skates and attempts to balance on ice are both laughable and endearing. But it's hard not to cringe when he falls in the arena and says, "Whaaaaa! tsk!" "tss!" And there's something unsettling about how skating was his way of dancing with the stars was rapper Master P—to great diversity and success, while revelling in his gracefulness and discomfort in a spandex cowboy jumpsuit. Still, the actor formerly known as Willie might be the breakout star if the judges find him entertaining enough to keep around—he certainly is capable of laughing at himself. He and his partner skater, U.S. pairs champion Jenni Murray, might get past enough "artistic" points

to make up for their dismal "technical" ones. Unlike *Dancing with the Stars* and the *Idol* franchise, viewers don't get a vote on *Skating with Celebrities*—it's up to Dorothy Hamill and her cohorts, (mean judge Sir John Tucker and hanger-on judge Mark Lewis).

But what the audience loses in control it gains in drama. "The danger factor is high," says Browning, now a pro skater who lives in Toronto with his ballerina wife and son. "There's blood, there are stitches, there are ligaments twisted—people do get hurt." Kingston, Ont.'s Lloyd Laidler (an Olympic medalist with Isabelle Brasseur), who's paired with arena hockey

**"There is blood, there are stitches, there are ligaments twisted—people do get hurt"**

Seamus (Jeffy the Vampire Slicer), has also experienced the painful duties' equivalent of neurosurgeons stitching on their partners' toes. "She's kicked me in the shin with her picks," he says, "and a couple of times in the primer. But I dropped her a couple of times too." Going into the competition, Browning thought Laidler and U.S. pairs champion Jenni Murray would be doing cooler stuff than we were doing because they're big strong pairs guys and they lift girls for a living. "Browning always judges he's too weak to lift her Gibson above his head. But no other pair is either-

wise, well-choreographed and rhythmic. Those who, Laidler and Seamus, and Bridges and Murray all seem to truly enjoy being part of it, hugging and supporting each other through the good performances and the bad. There's skater '84 Saltzman and Olympic de-cathlete Bruce Jenner, the older couple at 46 and 45, are inspiring and charming—they've been friends since the 1976 Olympics. Meanwhile, comedian Crutcher and Nancy Kerrigan are an unexpected—unofficially trying to match her figure moves with figure skating. And while Canadian born, L.A.-based TV personality Jilanan Barbra (Fox NFL Sunday) and model/pole-dancer Zimmerman are by far the most beautiful and talented—Barbra should stand out as the one to stay—there are no such easy come-easy goers. They are the ones really to win. Or in their (ouch) other.

If the show is as popular in *Skating with the Stars*, it could attract interest to a sport that's waned in popularity since the judging scandal five years ago, gearing up excitement for this year's Games. Or it could further deplore competitive figure skating. Take, for instance, the need to avoid "hate" and I ended on a good note, no regrets. Olympic medalist, world title, and a medalist. I would not if this would hurt my career." But it was Brasseur who convinced him to go for it. "She said, 'In 10 years when you're over 50, as an old guy in a suit, you'll be a star.' It's not like I'm fat and I'm an aging star then and we're both 50." That's not with 70-year-olds it could happen. ■

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### THE MUSIC BIZ...ACCORDING TO TV

On the new show *Love Monkey*, Canadian hip-hop/rock (it) plays a recent label A&R tape where the music is, well, the money. "Right crime. In this case, it's a really bad music—because for every bad band you hear on the radio, there are a million worse bands trying to get on the radio." And "radio is like a black hole," Randy Jackson and Simon Cowell. It's more backtracking every week on *American Idol*—where money, not music, reigns.



# Erin Davis & Mike Cooper in the morning.

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THE BUDAPEST FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA capped a North American tour with a concert in Toronto this past weekend.

## There's something about Budapest Finally, an orchestra that doesn't have that homogeneous 'international' sound

BY JAMES L. WYCHMAN • Music lovers often complain that all orchestras sound alike these days. Orchestral musicians are proficient but lack the national and regional characteristics that used to define the way musicians played, does today's New York Philharmonic really sound that different from the Berlin Philharmonic? But some orchestras are re-creating the ideal of a truly distinctive style. One of these is the Budapest Festival Orchestra, under conductor Iván Fischer, which capped a North American tour with a recent concert in Toronto.

Fischer co-founded the Budapest Festival Orchestra in 1961. While Hungary has produced many of the best-known conductors in the world—including George Szell, Fritz Reiner and Georg Solti—its orchestras did not have much of an international reputation. Fischer's orchestra has changed that; it was recently described by a London publication as "one of the world's top five orchestras," and its recordings have won numerous international awards.

Whereas most orchestras just sound like a polished group of musicians, regardless of nationality, there seems to be something particularly Hungarian about the Budapest Festival Orchestra's sound and style. Richard Morrison, music critic for the London Times, summed it up when he wrote: "Twenty years ago, one might have attributed this vibrancy and cocked-spring intensity to their culture, to their folkiness. But now there is no other explanation. They are Hungarians."

Fischer thinks there is something to the idea that the Budapest Festival Orchestra is a uniquely Hungarian group. The intensity often played is informed by the Hungarian musical temperament, which he describes as "emotional, highly charged. Certain other national traditions reach for a certain moderate way of expression, suppressing the co-

ntinuous feeling. Hungarians don't know how to suppress their intense feelings. They don't have that mechanism."

To create a new Hungarian orchestra that meets international standards, Fischer implemented a combination of old-style playing and planning with new-style management techniques. He picked the best young players from other Hungarian orchestras, and created personnel flexibility by giving players two-year contracts, shorter than usual for orchestral musicians. That, Fischer says, "was an idealistic decision of the founding members, in order to maintain the high quality and

almost total quality that cuts out everything the rest of the orchestra. And like the great Hungarian conductor George Szell, Fischer tries to make each fifth-stringer music sound as if composed and played by a chamber music group."

But Fischer says that the sound of an orchestra's musicians is not the most important factor in creating a distinctive orchestra. "I consider the musicianship far more important than the sound. If the musicianship is on a high level, that affects the sound, because people listen to each other, people follow each other, give room or time to each other to play difficult phrases. And ultimately it affects the sound, because it creates a sound for each musical phrase."

**"Hungarians don't know how to suppress their extreme feelings. They don't have that mechanism."**

dedication of the orchestra. They know that all their life they have to be on the edge of their seat and give a little extra, which is usually not demandable under normal circumstances."

The Budapest Festival Orchestra has been described as a renaissance of the great central European orchestras of the mid-19th century. For one thing, its sounds differ from most modern orchestras. The strings are less muted than those we expect from big Western orchestras, and with relatively restrained winds. Violin solos have a raw energy and patterns of grey-flicker. The brass is soft and dark-sounding, the woodwinds have a bring-

through the orchestra understandably performs a lot of Hungarian music—including recordings of the complete orchestral works of Bartók and the entire symphony cycle of the German and Slovak repertoire. It has recently recorded symphonies by Rachmaninov, Tchaikovsky and Mahler, and its program at Roy Thomson Hall in Toronto consisted of Wagner's overture to *Die Meistersinger*, Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto, and Tchaikovsky's *Maestro Symphony*.

Fischer plans to further expand the BFO's repertoire, but in everything the orchestra performs, he intends to keep the sense of phrasing and teamwork that creates the impression of unique sound. "If people play the notes and not the phrase," he says, "that's when an orchestra is in trouble." ■



### ROSANNE CASH...HAS SOMETHING TO SAY

It was a bleak Cadillac there you away / Everybody was talking / But they don't have much to say / It was a bleak city of men miles of it full / Now one of us gets to go to heaven / and has to stay here in hell / Now it's a lonely world, guess it always was / minus you and minus blood / It was a bleak Cadillac like one you used to drive / Now you were always telling me those wheels burn up your life — Black Cadillac, written for her father, Johnny Cash.



FRANK AND ROLLIE reduce the wretched chaos of children who have never seen before.

## Jesus meets the Buddha in Chinatown

Julia Kwan's multicultural mix of whimsy and memoir competes at Sundance

[illegible]

about head food for war with a manual in the kitchen. The director, who's 30, looks tall and thin, and says she's a vegetarian. She's the first visited Sundance with a short story collection, *Three Sisters on Moon Lake*, which ends with three Chinese daughters committing suicide to ease the economic pressure on their family. *Five Horses* reflects her own experience as a child of Chinese immigrants: her father worked in a restaurant, and her mother fished twice a week in a laundry. Her own childhood home had crucifixes and Buddhist altars crowding the mantel. "My mom thought there was a deity in everything," says Rhee. "Two gods in the bathroom."

Fire Horse children are said to be troublesome, and to bring misfortune on their families.

are safer than one. Besides, Sunday school means being a young "I" for parents, she adds, called themselves "black magic Buddhists because I'm all about luck and superstition."

In Fire Horse, conflict arises as the girls say with Catholicism, transmutation—and hidden baptisms. "A lot of it's from my own imagination," says Kwan. "But when I was 5, my grandmother died and my father said she was reincarnated as a goldfish." Near the end of the book, the young Kwan was forbidden to visit her in the hospital—to avoid bringing bad karma. The doctor's lost members

**WE'RE STALKING**  
The blonde star of *Friday* was being stalked last week. First, *Between*—media exposé—and had been trying Martin, to reveal to his hours on the phone high-spiritedly sleep

Even the *Pow-Mow* represents a coming breed of Canadian cinema. Our film industry occupies two cultures: Quebec, where it thrives, and English Canada, where it languishes. But "English Canadian cinema" acquires a misnomer when its finest production last year was *Deepa Nithin's Water*, a Hindi-language movie set in India. And with disillus-

the shuttles between English and Chinese. For Hong Kong, the film is a dream come true: a multi-cultural triumph. Not least, it's a three-year journey to raise her to 7 million budget. "The film funding officials told me it wasn't commercial enough, especially for adults," when Richard Suenberg, chairman of Telefilm, was backing Disney last month after talking around Kwan's lip-synching goldfish was not exactly what he had in mind.

Three years ago in Vancouver, Kwan lined up to see Sandra Oh make her big-screen debut in *Double Happiness*, another tale of Chinese Canadian culture shock. For Hong Kong, a more cosmopolitan pedigree. On the

has native Women Who [The Last Emperor, The Joy Luck Club], and Hong Kong-born Lester Chan, who starred in Ang Lee's Eat, Drink, Man, Woman. Moody images from Monet, of course, and photographer Nicolas Bolduc look like they belong in a Quebec movie. Add a sensuous score by Mychael Danna, who's worked for Ang Lee and Atom Egoyan, and *Rouge* looks like a new brand of fusion cinema. **B**

WEBB STALKING: GWYNETH PALTROW

The blonde star of *Proof* denied she was the centre of the sizzling issue last week. First, she had to deny that she's been slugging *Reverie*—media reports had alleged she stalked living in the U.K. and had been trying to convince her husband, musician Chris Martin, to leave to Los Angeles. Then she had to deny having spent hours on the phone with Jennifer Aniston, during which the two high-spiritedly planned their mutual on-*Real* fix.

## MAX INTERVIEW

[illegible]

However, officials at both the Disney and National IMAX theaters told *BusinessWeek* their decisions were driven by marketing concerns. "We have to pick a film that's going to attract us everywhere," says IMAX National General Manager John LaRocca, who also rejected *Low's* previous IMAX entries, *Volcanoes of the Deep*, on the grounds that children found it hard to follow. Low counters that *Julie* is focused initially on his office, and that's a tragedy. She runs the simplest film the city can. "Zooquest's" story has been used to build these beautiful IMAX palaces in cash-poor countries, with no thought to the film-making. "Their ideal film," he adds, "is a two-page ride with a big screen of you."

Low says her brother has IMAX technology (patented by his father, Colin Low) as a Canadian invention, but IMAX films can only find financing in Canada. So he's made a deal between her and a Japanese power company, and now Ontario supplies fuel for the U.S. railway. When IMAX cameras on the top of an F-15 fly above the ocean at 50,000 km, a 16-foot IMAX film can view them as if they were a pair of billiard machines, with resistor tubes of barrels being assembled by sight at the Red Line base. The six-foot display was a prototype film, says Low. They weren't too fond of the film—play suggested something more realistic and less noisy. Meanwhile, Low says he's dying to make a series of IMAX movies about global warming. "If only someone would give me the money," he says.



has taken time out from their grueling tour-naments to be recognized publicly for the hard ship of getting paid millions of dollars to stick their tongues out for the mouth of Nature White. This year's coronation, the third edition of the Clash, was broadcast live with the usual explicit disclaimer—Warning: May Contain Trace Elements of Crudebody.

The evening brought out the staples of such affairs: the glamorous powers, the twenty accounting firms needs the high-octane, an-kissing eloquence of Mary Harn and the rest of the red carpet here parasites. Oh, and female beauty! Plenty of them—each an un-bowed using the human greedy-diffing technology and space-age polymers. I know this sounds crazy, but it was almost as though the actresses were trying to get us to look at their chests!

Officially, Drew Barrymore wasn't asked to do anything, but she was chosen for the runaway winner in the category of Best Unrequited Performance. If you catch my drift. And if you don't, I'll put me to tell you the wife's coming is less for her part, Pamela Anderson appeared onstage in a dress as conservative and understated as the one could only assume it to be part of Vera Wang's new line of haute couture bachelorette. Meanwhile, Virginia Madsen's beauty was so delectable that her co-presence, Harrison Ford, can't directly face on each his hairline.

[illegible]

## Heaving globes of gold

According to its website, the IHFPA's "mission" is to "establish friendly relations and cultural ties between foreign countries and the United States of America by the dissemination of information concerning the American culture and traditions" (FY). By their society's name it is *clearly* leading towards Americanization.<sup>10</sup> In any event, you can rest assured that the IHFPA offers rigid standards for membership, demanding that applicants demonstrate the ability to deliver complementary services at the *White* ritualistically adding more exhortation *en route* to the end of their "Sweet Union is the second coming of Christ" speech.

Certainly, the RFFPA has farming down to a science. The 63rd Golden Globes is all no-hair or sparring monologues, save for Queen Latifah's brief, obligatory reference to Hollywood's dream factory blab-blah. There were no musical performances, no "technical" awards for the people who actually, like, write

Drew Barrymore was declared the winner in the category of Best Unsupported Actress.

the movie? The same you got was that these foreigners have got shiny gold around their waist to dole out and they're gold colubrids, any to lose and destined if they're going to waste any time on anything you when they could be keeping their shiny gold around their waist. Vin Diesel's answer to that maybe next time Vin will remember them when they are walking on the street and say "Oh" and try to introduce him to a thousand Degrade but Vin just keeps walking and totally doesn't even seem to recognize or remember them, which sucks, man. Oh, holy f---, staves.

There is, of course, a terrible hypocrisy to the reflexive use of associativity: no one in the foreign press has the courage to draw such a bold conclusion. So we were "banned" to the surprise of people that were not only tolerant, who tried to come to accept, but really understood, which we've come to accept but only from Castro and/or Pío Abreu's names were thanked. Agents were pinned. Living lists of names were spoken for on good names. The cost of self-censorship is an inability to tell when you are being the witness of millions of sincere viewers. Or maybe it's an inability to see. Whatever the case, one suspects the executives of the Hollywood Foreign Press Association definitely nodded and seemed to give pale-yellow Golden Globes with one exception:



**DAVID DAVIS:** "Does he need to blow you when he's in a bad mood?" Jeff Daniels plays a petulant husband in *The Saver* and the *Wife*

Magnetic induction cooktops are the latest must-have appliances in high-end kitchens

the past two years. (He's been selling a limited number of the stoves for 25 years.) Cooking on a regular basis after the installation, he says, is akin to "giving up your Porsche."

At Vincent's Midland Appliances, salesperson Peter Raybourn estimates one in five of his customers looking at high-end appliances are switching to magnetic induction. "All I have to do is throw down a cloth coat and cook through it, and then I'm hooked," he

**'All I have to do is throw down a cloth towel and cook through it and customers are hooked'**

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because that "I need a big American car, not a deodorant for the house." Today, he wears socks in 45 seconds and prepares sauce without having to use a double boiler. Spicemix takes half the time they otherwise would. If something looks over, he wipes it up with a cloth. Unlike conventional stores, food won't baffle or

The price is about the only thing that can hurt. At a time when you can buy a home on new carpet for less than \$800, a two-element induction cooktop goes for about \$1,200, with four- and five-element versions costing upwards of \$4,000. Still, Barry Adler of Montreal-based *Minor Appliances* says sales have boomed in



**TODAY'S SPECIAL**  
The scrumptious game fish, and comparable cost of importing it, an impressive indoor produce 400 tonnes per year market. Because in the plant's fish to

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Vol/Deluxe, more outgoing at Toronto-based Taco Appliances, says Toronto got into the market much later than Montreal. (Taco has sold induction cooktops for about a year.) In order to make a big splash, she says, induction manufacturers really need to have the aid of kitchen designers—the same people who owned well off Torontoans that I needed 34,000 maintenance grade gas stoves a couple of years ago.

In Miami, Dwyer is about to launch into an anecdote about a certain world leader who ate the snake when his wife, Monique Chagnon, politely reminds him of the confidentiality agreement he signed shortly before leaving Washington in 2001. Safe to talk about his experiences cooking on a gas-burning stove? "Gas is a pain to clean," he says dismissively. "When sautes boil over, it gets into the cracks and makes a real mess of things. With this, you simply cannot burn anything if it boils over," he adds, pointing his induction stove as if it were his favorite pet. ■

The strategy game fish, described by some as the world's finest fish, and comparable to caviar, is priced at \$100/kg, despite the cost of importing it from its habitat off northern Australia. Now an immense indoor aquaculture operation in England is set to produce 400 tonnes of the white-fleshed wonder for the European market. Because of the barramundi's tropical nature, water in the plant's fish tanks has to be maintained at 28°C.



He may actually be depressed. But partners shouldn't be punching bags.

**JOHN MCDONALD**, "I try to tell" says the actor Nicolas Cage, whose mother's depression resulted in hospitalization. "My childhood was very close to my surface. I don't like to hold anything in so it flitters and turns to put a picture of emotion that is placed over a cloud of depression." The much information, perhaps, but according to a new book that looks at depression in men, Cage's approach may be just the ticket to sustaining a man's mental health—and the health of the woman he's married to. Ever in an era of New Age sensitive men, male depression is a hidden epidemic afflicting tall boys of men—largely because most men aren't so talk about it and therefore don't seek treatment, according to U.S. clinical psychologist David Winter.

Men might add to feeling stressed or tired, says Weider, but they are often hampered in their ability to label their feelings accurately. Instead, depression in men often shows up as anger or irritability, as well as a loss of interest in activities, especially toward the people they are closest to. *Is He Depressed, or What?* is a help manual for the women, girlfriends and partners of depressed men. "The widely used test of recognizing major depression in the first year after it doesn't look like depression at all. Depressed guys often mask their depression with more hubbub or substance abuse," says Weider. "A two-page list of questions helps girls spot significant symptoms." Does he complain about everything going wrong or rather does he have a "truth serum" that he can't resist? Weider says that men are often "dependent and disengaged." He needs to blame you when he's a bad mood? (See *Will I Ever?*'s "positive husband checklist" on page 24 and *Men's Health*.)

New research helps explain why some one would engage in a pattern of blaming, angry behavior. Anger can make someone feel more powerful, psychologically and in a

incoherence," says Winkler. For many more, anger is a "major pointer" that shows the direction of their pain, self-doubt and depression. Confronting with a depressed man's partner presents special challenges. There's little point in trying to persuade someone who's depressed from going in search of his feminine side. So what to do? The message, says Winkler, "should be that masculinity is great, and that he has plenty of it... nobody is trying to chop his balls off!" The author suggests broaching the subject with a rhetorical tie: "I have no doubts whatsoever about what kind of a man you are. I think a stronger man is so..."

**'I would appreciate it if you wouldn't log on to the Internet until you've been home for at least one hour'**

enough to ask for help when he needs it. If he will, can't handle the D-word, says Wines, go ahead and call it stress, and if you're still not getting anywhere, then you should talk to a therapist yourself.

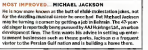
Wilder delivers the next chapter—"You Are Not a Punching Bag," to conclude it has not to enable the behavior of your depressed partner. "Remember that you did not cause his problems." "Remember that you can't fix him." "Do not allow his moods to interrupt your normal family routine." Wilder gives the example of a depressed husband stringing down to dinner and bedtime fruit with a

chicken. Your reaction? "You decide not to respond to his unpleasant attitude... Mood-alteration puts off the other person doesn't react." In fact, one of Winder's key pieces of advice is to try to persuade the depressed muse to "do it until he makes it." If he doesn't like writing, or playing with the kids, or cleaning up the house, you should convince him to do it anyway. Winder says that the more he scolded a non-depressed person, the more Mads felt it that he will become one.

In order to change depressive behaviors, Wender suggests that you propose an experiment. In a supportive and non-critical way, ask for "very specific behaviors from your depressed partner that would really make a difference to you." For example, "I would appreciate it if you would not log on to the Internet until you have been home for at least one hour. Let's just try it and see." Or, "It's important to me that you check your temper at the door when you walk into this house."

Best of all, however, Wender cautions that while your partner may acknowledge the validity of your concerns, he may also accuse you of bringing them up at the wrong time and in the wrong way. "You are very likely to end up feeling the pinch," it's important that you trust your instincts. For many men there is no such thing as the right time and the right way. "It all feels like an attack," Wender says if he consistently tries to make you feel as if your superior communication is the problem, you should not "lose it."

He is now more known as the butt of white-mocksteration jokes, not for the scolding himself, but for the sneer that. But Michael Jackson may be having to concern by getting a job in Bahrain. The 47-year-old singer is reportedly being pursued by A&J Holdings Ltd, an action development firm. The firm wants his advice in setting up entertainment businesses such as theme parks. Jackson is a frequent visitor to the Persian Gulf nation and is building a house there.







## RITA KATHLEEN TUCKETT

1909-2005

## From the Blitz to the backwoods to the big screen. She was petite, 'but she could command attention.'

Rita Kathleen Tuckett (née Adams) was born on Jan. 30, 1909, in Wandsworth, England, a London borough near the River Thames. Her mother, Daisy, who had many sisters all named after flowers, originated in South Sea, Maine. One, the workaholic Rita, was a welder. Charles, her father, asked to meet and speak to Rita. Eventually, she would have a half sister in London, Norma, and half siblings, Daisy and David, in the Sea.

Rita excelled in elementary school, and won a scholarship to a high school in nearby Warwick. She studied theatre, and appeared in a small vaudeville company run by her music teacher. "I discovered that while I could sing, I could make an audience listen when I spoke," Rita recalled. Her singing was considered instrumental work for women. So Rita studied art at Birmingham and Chrysler colleges. She became an acclaimed artist, whose paintings and sketches were shown in England, and later throughout North America and Europe. Rita taught art at a private school. "A lot of these kids had more pocket money than the ever had," says daughter Anne Bailey, and went there rather than to the ever had, "But she could command attention."

When Rita was in her 20s, she married Lincoln Gaskill. In 1940, during the London Blitz, Rita gave birth to their first son, who was safely tucked in the hospital basement with other newborns. Six years later, Rita left England for Canada with Bruce. Her child, good piano teacher, had done so very well, and had a lot of letters, along with Anne of Green Gables books. Rita had also kept in touch with Daisy, and her half siblings. Rita knew what he came of Lincoln—Rita just and her brother relationships.

Once in Canada, Rita taught art, at first on an Indian reserve near the Sea. She didn't like the cold or bugs, and had bad reactions to black fly bites. But she loved the rugged northern beauty. She shocked in the 1950s by wearing slacks because, the assistant, she was impressed for coming through the bush to meet. Rita became involved in local theatre, making costumes and sets, and acting, and directing. She starred in many plays, including *The Women of the Wood*, award winner Lila Kadron, the wife of local doctor Richard Howard. Rita won Quays awards in north-east Ontario theatre honour for her roles in *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*, and *Fudgeface*, in which she played an aging parent. "She played that as well as you can. She did it without her teeth. That was the kind of dedication the best, she got mental herself to be like," says Henry Housman, now the president of the South Theatre Week shop. Rita encouraged him to audition for his first play in 1968.



"Supporting the young actors was part of the teacher in her," he says, which is why she co-founded Studio 5, a youth theatre in the Sea, as well as a dramatic arts center. Rita also hosted two local TV art shows, one for children.

When Rita was 65, she moved to Stratford, Ont. She left behind Lewis Tuckett, a gardener and painter whom she'd married in 1957. They loved and understood each other, but "they were never separated. There were things she wanted to do," says Anne, born in 1950 out of another relationship, and named after the Green Gables girl.

Starting in 1974, Rita performed and directed with the Stratford Little Theatre, and sketched in the park the faces of passersby. She

starred in Shaw Festival productions such as *The Ironies*. In 1978, Rita moved to Toronto, and appeared in Agatha Christie's *The Mousetrap* for around 30 years. In the 1950s and '60s, she also did commercials and movies, including *Love with Liv Ullmann*, *The Dead Zone* with Christopher Walken, Stephen King's macabre *Storm of the Century*, *Twilight* (in with John Cusack), and Disney's *One Magic Christmas*, in which Rita played Mrs. Claus. She also was a man in Norman Jewison's *Amos & God*, with Jack Palance and Anne Bancroft. "We all cringed as she poked it," laughs Anne. "Rita heard the word 'offensive,' you couldn't stop her." Her even legal blindness slowed Rita down. She hated cuts and emerged without a walking cane, which she refused to use for fear of costing discrimination.

"It's quite unusual to have an actor stage," says Larry Goldfarb, Rita's agent. "When was anything about her was that she had this extraordinary energy." At

an agency party in the late 1990s, Rita surprised everyone when she came with her mother. "She could hardly move. But she said she couldn't miss this," Goldfarb recalls. A few years ago, Rita reluctantly phoned him to say she was retiring. Her last roles were in *The Morning of Sophia's Night* and *Wherry the Money* to with Paul Newman in 2000, and a *Bobber* commercial in June 2001. She never drank beer.

Rita overcame bladder cancer in 1993. She moved in with Anne in 1994, and lived with her until last August, when her son fell ill. Rita went to a nursing home. Anne saw her last November. "In all of this, she knew Richard Morone was retiring," she says. Rita was good at remembering. To keep her mind sharp, she memorized scenes of Shakespeare and Kipling. "The one thing she wanted about was being forgotten," Anne says.

On Dec. 27, 2005, Rita Tuckett, 96, died of old age at William Osler hospital in Stratford. Memorials will be held this spring and fall at Stratford and the Sea.

BY GARY GELMAN

## CAN YOU TELL WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS DRINK?

You can't see or taste the hepatitis virus in your drink. And that's just one of the many ways that over a million vacationing Canadians face hepatitis risk every year—even at the best tropical resorts. International Health Authorities consider that Mexico and the Caribbean islands are medium to high-risk areas for acquiring hepatitis A. Hepatitis A and B are serious liver diseases that can sometimes be fatal. Once infected, you could easily spread the illness to others back home, even before you know you're sick. Why take the chance?

Only Twinrix® vaccinations give you and your family simple, long-term protection from both hepatitis A and B. So see your doctor about Twinrix® and stay healthy.



the pineapple is O.K.

the cherry is O.K.

the punch is O.K.

the 2<sup>nd</sup> ice cube may contain a hepatitis virus

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# CAN YOU AFFORD — to keep — YOUR HUSBAND?



SURE, HE'S A NICE GUY. GOOD WITH THE KIDS. SNAPPY DRESSER. HIS WEAKNESS? EXPENSIVE, SHINY TOYS.

Which brings us to the million-dollar question: Will the two of you be able to save enough to afford the retirement you've always imagined? It all starts with managing your 'Burn Rate.'

Burn Rate simply refers to how fast you spend your money. The more you save now, and invest wisely, the more satisfying your lifestyle later.

Only you can decide when and where the savings can be found. But by making even a few wise choices here and there, and then investing the difference, your money can really add up. (See chart)

Unfortunately, discussing spending can be such a touchy topic that many couples simply avoid it altogether.

But it's an issue that doesn't go away until you address it. That's why Mackenzie has provided your financial advisor with some tools that can help demystify the subject. Together, you and your advisor can calculate your Burn Rate, and discuss some ways that you can start to decrease it.

You could also discuss a financial plan that includes Mackenzie Mutual Funds to help you achieve your goals sooner. Unfortunately, we can't promise you that no one will mention your fondness for shoes. To learn more about Burn Rate (or to find out if you can afford to keep your kids), visit [burnrate.ca](http://burnrate.ca)

## MACKENZIE'S BURN RATE CALCULATOR

*{A few wise choices during the course of a year can really make a difference}*

Rear-Projection TV instead of Plasma TV	\$2,800
A case of Shiraz instead of Bordeaux	\$180
Golf Lessons instead of Golf Club	\$400
<b>Total Savings</b>	<b>\$3,380</b>

\$3,380 invested in Mackenzie Ivy Foreign Equity Fund over the past 10 years = \$7,230\*



\$600 titanium driver versus \$200 in golf lessons. Yes, the driver is shiny and new. But maybe if he'd just stop collapsing his right elbow, he'd find the extra yardage he's longing for.



A \$30 bottle of Bordeaux, or a \$15 bottle of Australian shiraz. Both have an aromatic bouquet. Will your brother-in-law really know the difference?



A \$5,000 50" plasma TV, or a \$2,200 50" rear-projection LCD TV. Plasma has a better picture, but half the lifespan. Of course, they'll both cost half as much in six months.

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